

North Carolina—Fair Monday and Tuesday; continued mild temperatures.

**AL G. FIELD, PREMIER AMERICAN MINSTREL DIES AT AGE OF 73**

Columbus, Ohio, April 3.—Alfred Griffin "Al G." Field, premier of American minstrel, died at his home here today, his death resulting from Bright's disease.

Born seventy-two years ago in Leeburg, Va., Mr. Field was educated in the common schools of Brownsville and Pittsburg, Pa., later becoming interested in banking and farming. In 1886 he entered the theatrical business, organizing a minstrel show which has operated continuously since that time.

Mr. Field was a former high national officer of the Elks and widely known in Masonic circles. The funeral will be held here Tuesday afternoon.

**VIVIANI CONTINUES CENTER OF TALK AT NATIONAL CAPITAL**

**Mission of Former French Premier Subject of Widespread Speculation**

**POSITION OF HARDING NOT YET MADE CLEAR**

**Much Opposition To Move To Declare Peace By Resolution When Congress Convenes; United States Holds That Germany Must Bear Responsibility for the War**

News and Observer Bureau, 608 District National Bank Bldg By EDWARD E. BRITTON (By Special Leased Wire)

Washington, April 3.—The principal topic of talk in Washington the past week has been concerning the visit of former Premier Rene Viviani, of France, and the mission that brought him here.

That it had to do with relations of this country with France and the League of Nations is known. The attitude of this country on the reparations matter with Germany has been soured-it is the agreement that it has been made plain that the United States holds that Germany must shoulder the responsibility of the war, and meet the reparation figures; that we stand with our allies of the war in those matters. And the special envoy from France has said nothing of any wish of France to have its debt to us cancelled.

Otherwise, the position of the Harding administration appears still in a middle, and the "wobble" and "wiggle" of its election day declarations continue. One day we hear that the separate peace resolution of Senator Knox is to be pigeonholed, while the last of the week brought intimations that immediate peace with Germany is to be urged promptly upon the convening of the sixty-seventh Congress in extra session. This is exactly what Viviani does not want. Its passage, he holds, will be a matter of encouragement to Germany to continue to resist the terms of the peace treaty with the allies, who have accepted it. And if this is adopted, then of necessity the American troops in Germany occupied territory will be withdrawn, a sign to the Germans that we are not standing with our allies. Such a peace is declared by its opponents to be a dishonorable peace, one that will shame America.

**TWO HURT WHEN CAR OF POWDER EXPLODES**

Six Freight Cars Splintered By Terrible Blast at Fredericksburg, Va.

Fredericksburg, Va., April 3.—Two men were injured, and at least six freight cars were destroyed, and traffic on the railroad was blocked for hours this afternoon when 40,000 pounds of black powder in a car exploded in the freight yard near here. The injured are A. W. Johnson, conductor, and A. R. Brown, brakeman.

**TO DISCUSS MEANS OF FINANCING EXPORTS**

**War Finance Corporation and Southern Bankers To Hold Meeting Today**

Washington, April 3.—Directors of the War Finance Corporation will meet here tomorrow with representative bankers of the South to consider methods of financing exports of cotton and other agricultural products of that section.

**Removing Hero Dead.**

Announcement is made by the War Department that work is going on in removing the soldier dead from the great American cemetery at Romagne, France, where more than 22,000 bodies of those who gave their lives in the Argonne are interred, the shipments of the bodies to be expedited. In all there were 75,882 dead overseas, of whom 13,616 have been returned. Requests made are to allow 19,661 bodies to remain permanently, while definite instructions have been received regarding 50,040 bodies. There are 25,842 of whose final resting place is not yet fully decided. Of the dead but 1,840 remain unidentified.

**Fourth Annual Horse Show.** Pinehurst, Tomorrow. All day, starting at 10:30 a. m.—(Adv.)

**PEONAGE CASE TO TRIAL TOMORROW**

**No Troops To Be Sent To Guard Court House; Investigation Continues**

Covington, Ga., April 3.—With the trial of John S. Williams, prominent Jasper County farmer, charged with murder in connection with the killing of eleven negroes in the vicinity of his farm twenty miles from here, set for Tuesday morning, officials and attorneys for both the State and defense spent a busy day examining witnesses and making investigations here today, while Judge John B. Hutcheson, at his Jonesboro home, announced no troops would be required to guard the court house.

In making the announcement that he had decided not to ask Governor Hugh M. Dorsey to send troops to Covington for the trial, Judge Hutcheson declared "the better class of people of both Newton and Jasper counties are law-abiding and desire that the defendants in the murder cases be given a fair and impartial trial."

Greene F. Johnson, leading counsel for Williams, was in Covington throughout the day conferring with witnesses for the defense. He visited the Williams farm and made a tour of the sections of Jasper and Newton counties, where the eleven negro bodies were found after Clyde Manning, an employee of Williams, had confessed and pointed out the graves to officials.

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**RAILROAD WORKERS PLAN TO ORGANIZE FOR CLOSER UNION**

**Want District Councils To Better Resist Attacks of Rail Executives**

**ASK UNION HEADS TO SANCTION NEW PLANS**

**Representatives of 175,000 Organized Railway Employees Declare District Councils at "Strategic Points" Necessary To Perfect a 100 Per Cent Organization**

New York, April 3.—(By the Associated Press.)—Representatives of 175,000 organized railroad employees, in special convention here today, called upon the executive heads of the recognized national and international railroad unions to sanction the formation of district council of railroad employees in the New York district and at other "strategic" points in the railroading industry.

These district organizations are necessary, it was stated in a letter sent to the executive union officials, to enable the railroad employees "to better resist the concentrated attacks of the Railway Executives' Association" and "to bring about a closer affiliation of all railroad employees and perfect a 100 per cent organization in all crafts by stimulating interest in their own welfare and educating them in the value of solidarity."

Delegates to the convention, who represented all local railroad unions in the greater New York district, urged that "a state of status quo should be declared by the American Federation of Labor, so as to clear the way and make it possible for what are now commonly known as the transportation brotherhoods to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor."

**Man and Mule Rates.**

Man and mule rates for labor in this investigation and seed and fertilizer costs, the department says, constituted 84 per cent of the total operating expense, exclusive of land rent. Other expenses amounting to 16 per cent of the total, included such items as grinding, measure, equipment, taxes, insurance and overhead. Man labor was charged at the rate 30c an hour, mule labor 20c an hour, seed \$8.1 a ton and fertilizer at \$46 a ton. From the total cost of \$56.16 an acreage seed credit of \$1.90 was deducted, making a total net cost of \$54.26.

**Fallen To Pay Expenses.**

"With cotton around 12 to 15c per pound, the returns not only allowed no interest on capital, but failed to pay operating expenses at going rates for labor and prevailing prices for agriculture. With cotton at 15c per pound it would require a yield of approximately 450 pounds of lint to cover operating expenses."

**No Interest In Election.**

Lenoir, April 3.—There appears to be little interest in the coming municipal election, which will be held within a few weeks. Mayor Pritchett has announced he will be in the race for reelection. So far Mr. Pritchett is the only candidate, but friends of B. F. Williams and E. A. Poe are mentioning them for office.

**Funeral of Mrs. W. E. Rodman.**

Washington, N. C., April 3.—Funeral services for Mrs. W. E. Rodman, who died at her home in Norfolk, Va., Thursday were held here yesterday.

**Raleigh Leads In Naval Recruiting**

Washington, April 3.—In the Southern division of the Navy Recruiting Service, Raleigh heads the list for the number of recruits for the week ending March 31. With 61 recruits from eight stations, Raleigh reports 19, Richmond and Atlanta tying for second place with 18 each. The total of all enlistments for the week is 289.

**Wade Looks for Spring Drive of Wild-Cat Stock Exploiters**

**Insurance Commission Issues Warning For Protection Of Investors; No Stock Salesmen Now Licensed In North Carolina; Attacks Mail Order Stock Campaign; State Law Considerably Strengthened.**

A spring awakening of Blue Sky, wild cat stock exploiters in North Carolina, who last year flooded Eastern North Carolina with worthless securities, is expected by Stacey W. Wade, Insurance Commissioner, who is receiving scores of inquiries from oil companies, mining companies, patent promoting concerns, all asking for information as to the method of getting into the State.

**Defenses Strengthened.**

When these companies apply for license, or for the renewal of license, they are going to find the state's defenses considerably strengthened. Some of the things which the applicant will have to do are:

First, secure a license for every salesman that it puts in the field and arrange a bond for \$1000 in reputable bonding company for each salesman. Hereafter, a bond with personal securities was all that was required and no justification was required on such bond.

Second, the company can sell stock only for cash or for notes made payable to the company and the old stand of endorsing such notes "without recourse" will not be permitted. The last Legislature passed a law prohibiting this practice and it will no longer be possible for a slick salesman to load a man up with worthless stock, take his notes for it and then let his company stand from under by endorsing the notes "without recourse."

Third, the company making application will receive the closest scrutiny. Under the law the Commissioner has authority to make an investigation of every company making application to sell stock, at the company's expense and the Commissioner proposes to do this very thing. He believes that a personal investigation by a dependable representative of the Insurance Department, will be worth more than all of the recommendations and affidavits ever collected and filed by one of these "Blue Sky" companies.

**Cotton Growers Must Cut Expenses of Making Crop**

**Department Says Operating Expenses Must Be Carefully Considered**

**COST 33 CENTS A POUND TO RAISE 1920 COTTON**

**Present Prices Fail To Pay Expenses Or Interest On Capital Invested**

Washington, April 3.—Cotton growers can meet the present price situation by "carefully considering" operating expenses and reducing them whenever there is a likelihood of obtaining a low yield per acre, the Department of Agriculture says in a report today on the results of a survey on basic requirements and costs of producing cotton.

**DYE INDUSTRY WILL GET PROTECTION**

**To Consider Plans for Defense Against German Dye and Chemical Trade**

Washington, April 3.—Defense of the nation's war-born dye industry against competition of the German dye and chemical trade will be taken up shortly by the Department of Commerce in conference here with representatives of American manufacturers. Rapid revival of the German industry, especially as a factor in foreign trade, department officials said tonight, must be taken into account by American interests so the industry may be secure here and the country remain independent of foreign sources of supply.

**Man and Mule Rates.**

Man and mule rates for labor in this investigation and seed and fertilizer costs, the department says, constituted 84 per cent of the total operating expense, exclusive of land rent. Other expenses amounting to 16 per cent of the total, included such items as grinding, measure, equipment, taxes, insurance and overhead. Man labor was charged at the rate 30c an hour, mule labor 20c an hour, seed \$8.1 a ton and fertilizer at \$46 a ton. From the total cost of \$56.16 an acreage seed credit of \$1.90 was deducted, making a total net cost of \$54.26.

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**Front Door Damage.**

Lenoir, April 3.—Although there was a heavy frost here Saturday and a good deal of damage has been done to the fruit, it is not thought that all of it is killed. Many gardeners covered growing vegetables as well as possible, and some people covered peach trees to keep off the frost.

**Revival At Lenoir.**

Lenoir, April 3.—Much interest is being manifested in the revival which is in progress at the First Methodist Church, being conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. B. Welch. The meetings will continue through another week. The singing is being conducted by Homer S. Jenkins of Atlantic, Ga.

**Amateur Tournament At Pinehurst Today**

Pinehurst, April 3.—A field of over 200 will start play in the North and South amateur championship tournament at Pinehurst tomorrow. The favorites for the qualifying medal include Perry Adair, last year's medalist; B. P. Merriman, Frank Dyer, Gardiner White, F. C. Newton, Jim Standish, Joe Schlotman, Ned Beall, Harold Weber and Al Meddies, who won the medal two years ago.

**Body of Naturalist Buried in Catskills**

Roxbury, N. Y., April 3.—John Burroughs was laid to rest this afternoon on the mountainside where he was buried exactly 54 years ago. From the peaks and the valleys of his beloved Catskill Mountains came hundreds of neighbors to pay him their final honors. Other men from far off corners of the nation joined them at the grave.

**Death of H. N. Bizzell.**

Dunn, April 2.—Hannibal N. Bizzell died recently at his home near Fayetteville. Mr. Bizzell was married three times and he is survived by his third wife, who was Miss Kate McKensie. His first wife was Miss Kate Underwood. To this union there were four children. They are J. A. Bizzell, a member of the faculty of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Mrs. Julius A. Culbreth, of Falcon; Mrs. Claude Grantham, of Goldsboro; and Lawrence U. Bizzell, superintendent of the light and water department of this city. Mr. Bizzell's second wife was a Mrs. King.

**NEW GOVERNOR OF PANAMA CANAL ZONE**



Col. Jay J. Morrow, of the United States Army Engineers' Corps, who was appointed governor of the Panama Canal Zone by Secretary of War Weeks, Col. Morrow, who has been acting governor, succeeds Brigadier General Chester Harding.

**INITIAL SESSION OF ROADMEN TODAY**

**Re-Organization of the State Highway Commission Pre-lude To Work**

Six new members of the State Highway Commission will be inducted into office this morning at 11 o'clock in the Executive Chambers when Chief Justice Walter Clark administers the oath to the men appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate to administer the State Road Law enacted by the recent session of the General Assembly.

Shortly thereafter the new commission, a chairman and nine members, will withdraw to the office of the State Highway Commission and begin the work of building 5,500 miles of State roads and maintaining them. This first session of the Commission will probably last until Wednesday afternoon. Massey detail of reorganization of the work of building and maintaining roads in North Carolina will be the immediate task of the new Commission, centering chiefly in the adoption of some scheme of maintaining the roads that will be immediately taken over to State control and upkeep.

It is understood that the Governor will discuss finances with the Commission before it withdraws for its first session, inquiring of them the tentative needs for immediate road building under the State system. It is also understood that the Commission will formally request the issuance of approximately two million dollars of the authorized ten million for the first year's work.

**High Prices Blamed.**

The maintenance by retailers of a relatively high price level has been perhaps the chief stumbling block to quickened industrial activity. The great cut in producers' and wholesalers' prices last summer and fall was not followed by proportionate reductions in the prices to consumers. It is apparent that we are approaching the point where many manufacturers can get materials at prices that can afford to pay and still make a profit. More efficient labor they can furnish at a cost within the consumer's reach.

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**SAYS TAXATION IS BIG QUESTION NOW BOTHERING PEOPLE**

**Former Secretary of Agriculture Gives Analysis of Survey of Conditions**

**FAVORABLE DOMESTIC CONDITIONS OUTLINED**

**Peace Settlement and International Trade Next in Importance to Taxation; Decrease in Crime Reported; Crop Outlook Good; Business Has Passed Crisis**

Baltimore, Md., April 3.—David F. Houston, former Secretary of Agriculture, in analyzing a country-wide survey of industrial, financial, agricultural and other economic conditions, declares that "the big national question is taxation, with peace settlement and international trade next."

The survey, made in all of the geographical divisions of the United States by field agents of the Fidelity and Deposit Company of the city, consisted of answers to 36 questions by farmers, bankers, manufacturers and public officials. An interesting feature of the statistics is that in every section except New England and the Rocky Mountain states, building operations show a marked increase. General transportation conditions in every state were reported "good" and raw materials plentiful. Savings accounts, the survey showed, increased in 15 states. Police officials of 27 states said there has been a noticeable increase in crime over last September, but a decrease was reported in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

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