

STATE OF GEORGIA PLANTER TO REST WITH JURY TODAY

Williams Declares His Innocence of Charge of Killing Eleven Negroes

CLOSING ARGUMENTS TO BE HEARD THIS MORNING

Plantation Owner on Trial for Death of One of Negro Farm Hands; Points to Negro Farm Boss As One Having "Probable Motive" for Killings; Attempt at Alibi

Covington, Ga., April 7.—The fate of John S. Williams, accused of the murder of eleven negro farm hands, will rest with a jury tomorrow. In even, dispassionate tones, the Jasper county planter, testifying in his own behalf, today declared his "absolute innocence" of the charge of murder and when court adjourned late today the trial had been concluded except for the two closing arguments and the judge's charge.

Williams will be either convicted of the murder of one of the men, for whose death he is specifically on trial, or he will be acquitted, for attorneys on both sides argued this afternoon that there could be no "half-way verdicts" and the defendant himself told the jury in so many words, that the killings were "murder." A verdict of murder might be accompanied by a recommendation for mercy, carrying life imprisonment.

Clyde Manning, negro farm boss for fourteen years on the Williams place, whose confession implicated the planter, was pointed to by Williams as the man having a "probable motive" for the killings. Charles C. King, pleading for Williams' acquittal, told the jury that Manning, ignorant of the penalty for poaching, had become alarmed at the Federal investigation and that the evidence indicated he was the only person who had a motive for the killings.

Mr. King asserted the defense expected to rely largely on Williams' confession, which he said Williams had established "as far as possible" by describing how he at one time the night the three negroes were killed, and asserted the state had offered no legal corroboration of the testimony of a confessed accomplice as required by law.

Manning Incapable.

Graham Wright, Assistant Attorney General, pointed to certain testimony as corroboration and said the law left it to the jury to make final decision on that question. He termed Manning incapable of planning and carrying out the crimes "under the eyes of Williams and his family," and named Williams as the guilty man.

Manning also will be put on trial for the murders, it was announced today, the exact time to be decided later, and his attorney, E. Marvin Underwood, said he would not enter a plea of guilty.

"Clyde Manning shall not escape," declared Solicitor General Brand in a closing question of Williams. "I could not under the law permit him to escape."

Manning had testified for the state that by Williams' orders the negroes were weighed down with rocks and thrown alive into rivers or knocked in the head and buried where they fell, and Williams, taking the stand today, briefly recited all he said he knew of the deaths of Lindsey Peterson, Willie Preston and Harry Price, three drowned the same night in Newton county. He was on trial for the murder of Peterson and he did not go into the other case.

Defendant Calm.

The defendant accused by the state of "Georgia's most atrocious murders," has watched the proceedings calmly throughout the trial, even smiling once or twice, and today he was as cool as any of the spectators who packed the courtroom almost to suffocation to hear his story.

These were the first criminal charges of any kind ever filed against him, he declared, in his 54 years of life, and told proudly, it seemed, that his four grown sons were among the first to answer the country's call to war. He admitted he might have been technically guilty of peonage as he had worked negroes who owed him money. He had so informed Federal investigators when they first came to the farm, he added, and also had declared he later was paid and fed the negroes.

These agents replied that the negroes on his place were among the "best fed and clothed" they had seen, he declared.

If he were technically guilty of peonage, "most Georgia farmers also were," he added.

"I am absolutely innocent," he told the jury in conclusion, as he reverted to the murder charge.

State Route Case.

The state had rested earlier in the day with introduction of Rena Manning, wife of Clyde Manning, and Sheriff B. L. Johnson, of Newton county, in an effort to corroborate parts of Manning's story. The woman testified the negroes left with Williams, Manning and Charlie Chisholm the night they were last seen alive, as Manning had declared. Sheriff Johnson said Manning identified the three bodies found in Newton county and later confessed and told where the others could be found. The negro's words were borne out by investigation, the sheriff said.

Williams was the only witness for the defense, appearing on the stand unsworn, which, under Georgia law, prevented cross-examination. The fact that no other defense testimony was introduced permitted Williams' counsel to open and close. No argument was placed on the time of arrivals and four attorneys spoke today.

WARNS BUSINESS THAT VIOLATIONS OF LAW WILL NOT BE COUNTERANDED

Washington, April 7.—A general warning to business that the Department of Justice will continue to prosecute violations of the law was issued today by Attorney General Daugherty.

"The country," Mr. Daugherty said, "should take notice of a new day and a new way" and that those who had been guilty of illegal practices should not "close their eyes." His statement, he added, was a "modest, but emphatic warning" to those for whom it was intended and could be regarded as an opportunity for any of them who should mend their ways to do so.

DECLINES TO FILE IMPORTANT DATA

Southern Power Co. Withholds Information Promised At Hearing

The Southern Power Company has definitely refused to submit records of the assessments made against its property in South Carolina for taxation in accordance with promises made at the time the petition for an increase in power rates was being heard before the Corporation Commission in January.

Attorneys for the opposition to the petitioned increase have secured the records of the South Carolina Commission which show that in the place of an alleged valuation of 41 million dollars, set forth in the petition, as figured on the basis of the North Carolina valuation the assessed valuation of all properties held by the Southern Power Company in South Carolina is less than five million dollars.

Claiming a total "assessed value" of approximately \$76,000,000 for combined properties in the two states, the tax assessors of North and South Carolina disclose property valued for taxation at somewhat less than 20 million dollars, according to the figures in the hands of Judge J. Crawford Biggs, chief attorney for the opposition to the increased rates.

With the assurance set down in the records of the rate hearing held in January, voiced by both W. S. Lee and E. C. Marshall, assistant secretary and treasurer of the corporation, that the petitioning company would be glad to have incorporated in the record the value set on their properties in South Carolina, Judge Biggs made no effort to hurry the matter until last week.

Last Monday, in reply to a letter from Judge Biggs, attorneys for the power company, advised Judge Biggs that the power company had reached the conclusion that it would be inadvisable to submit the South Carolina records, and definitely declined to transmit them. Judge Biggs immediately took up the matter with the South Carolina Commission. The reply was received late yesterday.

Below is given the value set forth in the company's petition for increased rates, and the value of its South Carolina property on the tax books in that state:

Waterloo Power Company, \$15,781,250 in petition; tax value, \$668,010.
Great Falls Power Company, \$15,315,300 in petition; tax value, \$1,931,865.
Wateree Electric Company, \$5,680,500 in petition; tax value, \$563,940.
Catawba Power Company, \$283,850 in petition.
Southern Power Company, \$3,123,226 in petition; tax value, \$820,910.

RINGLEADER OF MOB FOUND GUILTY BY JURY

Sentenced in Virginia Court To Year in Jail and Pay Fine of \$500

Lynchburg, Va., April 7.—John Draper, charged with being ringleader of the mob that stormed the Halifax jail the morning of March 21, where Jim Coleman, negro, was held in connection with the murder of William Rickman, a white man, March 20, was found guilty of assault by a jury in the Halifax circuit court today and his punishment was fixed at one year in jail and a fine of \$500.

John Martin, attorney for Draper, asked that the verdict be set aside as contrary to the law and the evidence, and Judge W. C. Barksdale set Saturday morning for hearing with argument. Twelve others are charged with being members of the mob and their trial is expected to take place at the next term of the Halifax circuit court.

Commonwealth Attorney James S. Ealey expressed himself as satisfied with the verdict of simple assault on Dr. Joe Francisco and Peter McCormack indicted with the others as being members of the mob, turned state's evidence, testifying that Draper organized the mob. Other witnesses furnished corroborative evidence, while several witnesses testified to substantiate the defense plea of an alibi. Draper himself testified this morning, denying the charges and giving in detail his moves during the afternoon and late evening of the attack on the jail.

TRINITY PROFESSOR TO PREACH AT ROCKY MOUNT

Rocky Mount, April 7.—Announcement is made in a letter received this morning by church officials from Presiding Elder, N. H. D. Wilson, of the Washington district, that Rev. James Cannon, III, son of Bishop Cannon and now associate professor of Biblical Literature at Trinity College has accepted the temporary pastorate of the First Methodist church and will arrive in the city Saturday to conduct both services Sunday.

The local church has been without a pastor for the past several weeks since former pastor, J. F. E. Bates, quit the ministry and returned to his home in Arkansas. During the interim the pulpit has been supplied by the presiding elder and Rev. H. E. Spence, of Trinity college, who supplied the local pulpit last Sunday.

NEW CHAMPION OF NEGROES ARRIVES ON CAPITOL HILL

New York Congressman Comes To Bat In Advocacy of Henry Lincoln Johnson

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Objection of Negro Leaders to Frank Linney Ours No Ice and Name Goes To President This Week Probably; Colonel Meekins Claims His Appointment Purely Personal

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg. By EDWARD E. BRITTON (By Special Licensed Wire)

Washington, April 7.—Comes now to the bat in advocacy of having a negro Registrar of the Treasury—presumably Henry Lincoln Johnson, negro Republican National committeeman of Georgia—Martin C. Ansoerg, of New York City. This New York Republican has just broken into Congress, it being his first offense of this kind, and he celebrates his advent by a vociferous call to President Harding to give the kibosh to the protest of white women employees of the office against serving under a negro. And there are 22 young white women from New York whose names are signed to the protest against serving under a negro.

Ansoerg has made his protest against the protest of the white women to President Harding and also to Mrs. Virginia White Republican National committee, to whom the protest of the white women was sent, and the influence of her organization asked to prevent an "intolerable" condition arising from those who must work for their living. Ansoerg says that recognition on the protest would be a violation of the Republican platform and the constitution. He thinks it just the thing for white girls to take orders from negroes, that there is nothing "intolerable" to a white girl in this.

Heard this from his protest:

"Women Frank for Champion.

"The petition opposing the appointment solely because of color is a step backward 50 years and in violation of the spirit and letter of the constitution," he declares. He says the service of colored troops in the World War, and the appointment of a colored citizen to such a position as Registrar of the Treasury, "would show the admiration of the American people for the gallantry and bravery of the colored soldiers."

But what the white women do not recognize as logic is what has serving in the army, or gallantry of any kind got to do with the question of white girls taking orders from a negro? They are waiting for Congressman Upshaw, of Georgia, Democrat, to speak up for them, and are wondering if there will be any Republican from any of the States who will have the courage and the manhood to raise his voice in their behalf. And it must be remembered that signing their protest against negro control over them are white women from States North, East, West and South, Republicans and Democrats alike, that it is the appeal of white women to white men for gallantry and protection from suffering the humiliation of a condition which they declare would be "intolerable."

Blair Studied At University.

I had a talk today with candidate for Commissioner of Internal Revenue Blair—no, not our Dave Blair of North Carolina, protégé of Republican National Committeeman Morehead—but Robert W. Blair, formerly of Virginia, now of Detroit, Michigan, and I find that the Virginia Blair is an alumna of the University of North Carolina. He served in the world war as private, captain and major, has a long record of service with the internal revenue forces, and has a letter of strong commendation from Daniel C. Reper, once the Democratic commissioner of internal revenue.

Mr. Blair speaking, of his days at Chapel Hill made inquiry about former University friends, among these Judge Crawford Biggs, "Buck" Snow, Ferris Busbee, John Andrews, Bob Gray, "Red Buck" Bryant. He was a member of the class of 1896.

But let us not forget Dave Blair, for Dave's backers hold that he is still in the running, and that he is going some. I can give it as a fact that there is no doubt but that Republican forces in North Carolina are pressing the administration to appoint an commissioner of internal revenue and they understand also that the appointment of a commissioner has not yet been decided upon. Republican National Committeeman John M. Morehead came to Washington today and will remain till Saturday, and it may be put down as a certainty that he will boost Dave for the position, and as he is strong for Dave it is assured that he will give him the big boost.

And another of the Republicans who have an eye on Federal pie, and two hands each reaching for it, is here today, R. A. Kohloss, of Salisbury. Mr. Kohloss came primarily to be present last night at the wedding of his son, Maj. Fabius H. Kohloss, and Miss Rowena M. Smith, but stayed over today, planning to leave for his home tonight. He said that he was not here after a position—he was named by the Republican State committee at its Greensboro "hog combine" meeting as its voice for prohibition enforcement officer, but how could he help thinking of that when he was having a talk with Committeeman Morehead today, for Morehead, Col. Ike Meekins, Kohloss, J. F. Phelps of Creswell and John K. Wood of Elizabeth City, all foregathered at one time in the lobby of the Raleigh Hotel today. But they had nothing to give out, when Newer were asked to talk. Col. Meekins left for his home tonight, but will return early next week to make up his job as general counsel for the alien property custodian.

I got a chance for a word with Coll (Continued on Page Two)

WOULD CENTRALIZE FEDERAL AGENCIES HELPING SOLDIERS

Commission Recommends the Creation of Veterans' Service Administration

NEW PROGRAM SOLUTION RELIEF WORK TROUBLES

Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Rehabilitation Division and Part of Public Health Service Would Be Placed Under Director General Responsible To President

Washington, April 7.—Seven specific recommendations, chief among them the creation of the Veterans' Service Administration to take entire charge of government relief work among ex-soldiers and to be headed by a director general responsible directly to the President, were contained in the report submitted today to President Harding by his special commission investigating the care of veterans of the world war.

Charles G. Dawes, of Chicago, chairman of the commission, told the President he believed the report that he believed the recommendations were sound and that they would prove a satisfactory solution of the troubles existing in the present administration of soldier relief work. Early action by President Harding on the report is expected.

Recommendation number one provides for the new agency, and gives it jurisdiction over the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the rehabilitation division of the Federal Board for Vocational Education and such part of the Public Health Service as may be necessary to care properly for disabled veterans. It also asks that a director general assume charge of the new agency with full authority to obtain necessary facilities when those already available prove inadequate. This provision would permit the lease or purchase of hospital buildings whenever the demand exceeds the supply.

Cite Inconsistencies.

Care is suggested in the framing of new legislation creating the administration to avoid present inconsistencies of law affecting the three existing bureaus. Particular request is made that no statutory limitations be placed on the director general as to the number and salaries of his employees.

Number three asks that pending the enactment of new laws, Secretary Mellon, of the treasury, shall issue orders to the heads of the Public Health and War Risk bureaus, authorizing the latter bureau to take charge of the public health activities and personnel engaged in providing medical care for the veterans. The effect would be to consolidate these bureaus under one head by executive order without waiting for Congress to act or risk delay from that source.

Need More Hospitals.

The next recommendation provides for an immediate extension and utilization of all government hospital facilities, with such mobilization of civilian medical service as may prove practicable.

An immediate and continuous hospital building program is asked in the fifth recommendation, which suggests that Secretary Mellon's committee recently appointed to report on sites for new hospitals, be directed to report concerning the types and locations of the required buildings. It adds that appropriations should be made available by the Congress which convenes next Monday.

The sixth call for exertion of humanitarian influences to impress the sick and wounded with the fact that the nation is entirely concerned in their welfare and rehabilitation.

The last asks immediate use of the \$18,500,000 appropriated by the last Congress for new hospitals.

FOUR MEN ACQUITTED OF MURDER OF JAP

Jury At Norfolk Returns Verdict After Being Out Twenty-four Hours

Norfolk, Va., April 7.—Four men charged with murder in connection with the killing of two Japanese seamen on board the steamship Kaisho Maru last Christmas Eve were acquitted by a jury tonight. They had been out twenty-four hours before they reached a verdict.

The men were tried under an indictment which charged them with the death of a Japanese who was killed on the ship and buried at sea. A second indictment, charging them with the death of a Japanese who died in a hospital here, is still pending, and will be tried, commonwealth's attorney announced. Date for opening of the second trial has not been set.

The men are charged with killing the Japanese in a fight that resulted after they boarded the steamship posing as officers with the intention of seizing liquor which members of the crew are alleged, to have had.

West Durham Citizen Dies.

Durham, April 7.—John Stanley Rigbee, aged 67 years, resident of West Durham for the past several years, died last night at 6:15 o'clock at Watts Hospital following an operation Saturday.

Surviving the deceased are his second wife, Mrs. Ida Rigbee; two sons, J. E. Rigbee, of West Durham, and J. J. Rigbee, of Carrboro; two daughters, Mrs. Wynn Blackwood, of Chapel Hill, and Mrs. A. L. Fisher, of Winston-Salem; three brothers, L. F. Rigbee, of Chapel Hill; W. A. Rigbee, of Carrboro, and L. F. Rigbee, of Charlotte, and one sister, Mrs. Emma Rigbee, of Rigbee.

The deceased was born in Chatham county, resided for several years in Orange county, and moved to West Durham several years ago. (Continued on Page Two)

Wade Delivers Broadside At Texas Petroleum Concern

Is Company With Which Roland Beasley, Former Commissioner Of Public Welfare, Made Connection Recently Stock Selling Campaign Apparently General In State; Insurance Department Issues Warning.

Declaring that the International Petroleum Company is trying to do business in North Carolina in open and flagrant violation of the law, all the more reprehensible because of the fact that two North Carolinians are officers of the company, Stacey W. Wade, North Carolina Insurance Commissioner yesterday issued a statement of warning against the stock selling activities of the concern.

The two North Carolinians officers are Roland F. Beasley, former commissioner of public welfare in this State, and E. C. Williams, vice president of the company.

The Insurance Commissioner has found evidence of wholesale dissemination of literature of this company in North Carolina making a particular appeal on the strength of its North Carolina connections.

Flooded With Matter.

The statement of the Insurance Commissioner reads:

"North Carolina is being flooded with advertising matter bearing the name of the International Petroleum Company of Texas, San Antonio, Tex. It is persuasive and optimistic in tone. It tells stories of vast fortunes made in oil and quotes the stock of successful companies, cites their enormous dividends, and paints a picture of a future made happy and care-free by an investment of a few dollars in their stock. It is the same old line of bunk that has relieved suckers and easy-marks of their money through all the ages and would not be particularly dangerous in North Carolina but for two facts, both of them artfully set out:

"First, that Mr. Roland F. Beasley, late Commissioner of Public Welfare of the State of North Carolina, is now working for the International. The company says it affords them peculiar pleasure to announce that Mr. Roland F. Beasley, lately Commissioner of Public Welfare of the State of North Carolina, has been added to the staff. The announcement goes on to state that Mr. Beasley came to Texas, investigated their proposition thoroughly, etc., before accepting a position with them and that he has unbosomed faith in the company.

Another North Carolinian.

"Second, the announcement goes on to state that 'Mr. E. C. Williams, vice president of the company, who gained his information at first hand by actual experience, is another North Carolinian. The International, therefore, feels in some degree a personal relationship to the public of the Old North State."

"From information reaching his office, the Insurance Commissioner is convinced that many thousands of letters carrying this propaganda have come into the State during the past week. Copies of these letters have reached the Insurance Department from school teachers, ministers, social workers, newspaper men, real estate dealers, lawyers and others. The letters vary slightly in form. Mr. Williams, who says that he practiced law for twenty years in North Carolina, takes care of his brethren of the legal profession."

"The International is not licensed to do business in North Carolina and no contract which the company may make would be enforceable in any court in North Carolina. Until the company submits a full and complete statement to his office and is properly investigated as required by the law of the State, Mr. Wade earnestly requests all citizens of the State to let this stock, and all similar stock, severely alone. The company is seeking to do business in North Carolina in open and flagrant violation of the law and the fact that two North Carolinians are officers of the company, serves to make the company's criminal operations all the more reprehensible.

Promises Cash Dividend.

"The company promises a cash dividend of 4% per cent in April, but its financial statement, dated March 17, 1921, contains nothing substantial upon which to base such a promise.

"The Insurance Department regrets the necessity of making this statement, especially since the company appears to be very proud of its 'personal relationship to the public of the Old North State,' but it has no choice in the matter, since the company is trying to do business in North Carolina in violation of the law. If the proposition were on the level and the company's prospects all that Messrs. Beasley and Williams claim for it, they would not be afraid to show their hands and submit to an investigation at the hands of the officials of their home state."

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Albemarle, April 7.—Somewhat of a sensation was created in Albemarle today when Judge G. S. Ferguson, who is holding a Stany county term of Superior Court issued bench warrants for J. S. Sapp, J. B. Hammond, and H. T. Sawyer all of Badin and J. W. Goodman of near Albemarle, upon motion of Solicitor Walter L. Brock which motion was based on the evidence of W. J. Adams testifying in court as to sums from which he had obtained intortants. The charges against these men, it is understood, is for selling extracts and patent medicines containing sufficient alcohol to intoxicate persons who partake of same.

Hospital's Worthy Record.

Besides Mr. Daniels, other speakers of the evening were Judge W. B. Allen, Geo. C. Boyd, A. P. Edgerton, Charles Dewey, who gave a brief history of the hospital, who it has accomplished in the past, what it is doing at present and what it should do in the future.

While it cannot wholly be classed as a charitable institution in the sense of bestowing benefactions upon the indigent, its record is largely one of good deeds and has carried consolation and comfort to many a saddened heart and darkened home, and cheered and encouraged many a worthy person in the fight against adverse circumstances. Therefore, the large social gathering of citizens tonight was purely in the nature of a get together community affair for the chief purpose of arousing a more general interest in community uplift and pride in and solicitude for this worthy institution, which is chiefly maintained and operated through popular subscriptions by Goldsboro citizens.

The banquet was served at the Goldsboro Woman's Club and was in charge of the club women, who were attired in Red Cross costumes.

The musical program was in charge of the following young women: Mesdames Murray Borden, T. B. Jenkins, T. M. Bizzell, Gibbs and Misses Mildred Edmondson and Lorenda Hooks.

The recitation by Miss Lucy Johnson, of the Old Fellows home here, caused much merriment among the guests and was one of the outstanding features of the evening's entertainment.

While here today Mr. Daniels was the guest at the home of his brother, Judge F. A. Daniels, the home also of his venerable mother, Mrs. Mary C. Daniels.

Mr. Daniels' Address.

Mr. Daniels in his address to the Goldsboro people spoke in part as follows:

It is the easiest thing in the world to tell somebody else how to invest his money to secure big dividends. I am not now speaking of the employment of money in farms or factories or merchandise or banks. To be sure, wise use of money in the material foundations upon which our civilization rests is fundamental. Chambers of commerce and newspapers are established to tell where money can be placed to bring the largest return by co-operation and through corporations. Always, however, the individual insight or judgment will control a man who

DISTRICT MASONIC MEET AT GOLDSBORO SHORTLY

Goldsboro, April 7.—On April 21st, there will be a district Masonic convention of the Sixth District consisting of counties of Wayne, Lenoir and Greene. Representatives from 14 lodges are expected to attend. Grand Master J. Bailey Owen and Grand Secretary W. W. Willson will attend. After the regular meeting, which will convene at 2:30 p. m., a banquet will be given to the delegates at 6:30. In the evening there will be a public meeting at the courthouse at 8:30 o'clock.

WHISKEY STILL REMEMBERS GAS FILLING STATION

Winston-Salem, April 7.—Local officers located a blockade whiskey outfit yesterday afternoon patterned somewhat after a gas filling station. It was located on the Lexington road, in an old field near the road. It consisted of a full 50-gallon barrel which was buried in the ground with the bung protruding just above the soil level. A used kerosene can was placed in the barrel and there was evidence of considerable patronage.

BRITISH PREMIER LEAVES WAY OPEN TO SETTLE STRIKE

Eleventh Hour Announcement Gives Hope That Crisis Will Be Averted

GOVERNMENT TO MEET LABOR REPRESENTATIVES

Lloyd George Announces Willingness of Government To Participate in Conference To Discuss Question of Pumping Before Taking Up the Other Matters

London, April 7.—(By The Associated Press.)—Another day of tense alternations of hope and fear ended with one of the Prime Minister's characteristic eleventh hour interventions, bringing renewed prospects that the grave industrial crisis will be averted. He announced in the House of Commons tonight the willingness of the government to participate in a conference to discuss the question of pumping before other matters were considered.

Informal conferences continued throughout the evening, moderates like Mr. Asquith, Lord Robert Cecil, Arthur Henderson and John Chamberlain working hard in an endeavor to induce the miners to relent on the question of pumping and it was supposed that the whole question was turning on this slender hope.

Unexpected Turn.

Premier Lloyd George had been absent during the latter hours of the debate on the situation, but returned to the House unexpectedly at 11 o'clock and informed the members that the government had agreed to a course—which it is believed practically certain the miners will accept—the calling of a conference of the government and the miners relative to pumping the mines before touching upon the question of wages and other matters involved in the demands of the men.

What steps exactly had led up to this change of front are unknown as yet. Arthur Henderson, who rose to reply to the Premier, was clearly non-plussed. He had, he said, to express regret that the Premier had not given notice of such an important statement, as Mr. Thomas, secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, to whose suggestion it was apparently due, and other leaders had gone home.

As he had explained earlier, the Miners' Federation would have preferred to open the conference without conditions on either side, but he had not had an opportunity to consult the federation since the afternoon; therefore, he could not assume responsibility in the matter. He thought the only safe line would be for the Premier to put his statement in a letter to the officials for consideration.

Labor Heads Stand Pat.

The organizations composing the triple alliance held no further meetings; they are apparently holding hands until tomorrow. The Board of Trade issued an official report of today's negotiations for the enlightenment of the public. The report sets forth the arguments of both sides and concluding with a strong repudiation of the suggestion that the government is engaged in a general attack on wages, says:

"Such a charge is as monstrous as it is unfounded. The government and community alike are desirous that the best wages should be paid in every industry that such industry can afford."

The council of the Independent Labor Party called upon its members to support the miners by every means in their power, declaring the crisis was due to "an attempt of the government to establish capitalism to establish the right of unlimited plunder and degradation of the standard of living, which must be resisted at all costs."

ASHBURNER TO ADDRESS ROCKY MOUNT CHAMBER

Rocky Mount, April 7.—Charles E. Ashburner, city manager of Norfolk, has accepted an invitation from President John J. Wells, of the local chamber of commerce, to address the quarterly meeting of the membership of the commercial organization some time the latter part of this month. Mr. Ashburner has suggested Thursday, April 28, as a date that will suit him and chamber of commerce officials state that his suggestion will in all probability be accepted.

Mr. Ashburner, who is regarded as having made a great success of the city manager form of government in the Virginia city, is being brought to the city because of the live interest in the city manager form of government occasioned by the recent decision of the board of aldermen to place the proposed government change before the citizens of the city for rejection or approval at the regular May election.

HARPER NOMINATED FOR MAYOR IN KINSTON RACE

Kinston, April 7.—Carrying every ward, Mills M. Happer was nominated for mayor by Kinston Democrats today in a hot run off primary with mayor Joseph Dawson. Three other candidates were eliminated in the regular primary Tuesday. The contest today was so close that Happer carried two wards by only one majority, his majority in the city was 112. His nomination is equivalent to election next month.

BEGIN WORK ON SPENCER GRADED SCHOOL BUILDING

Spencer, April 7.—The first brick was laid Monday for the foundation of the new high school building now being erected in East Spencer at a cost of \$45,000. The town officials and school board are pushing the work and it is expected the contractors will start the new building over for use when school opens in September. The building and equipment will be second to none in this part of the South.