

THE WEATHER
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The News and Observer

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MISSOURI SLOGAN FITS REPUBLICAN REGIME ALL RIGHT

'Harding, Hell and Hard Times' Aply Describes Conditions Everywhere Now

FAVORABLE REPORT ON LINNEY IS SUBMITTED

Railroads "About Face" On New Rates To North and North Carolina Representatives of Shippers Declare They Will Not Accept The New Figures

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Building. BY EDWARD E. BRITTON. (By Special Leased Wire)

Washington, July 25.—From Missouri where the Republican Governor is named Hyde there comes a new slogan for the Republican party which it will hardly adopt of its own choice. Out Missouri way it is "Harding, Hell and Hard Times." This is the way things are looking to the folks in the "show-me" State.

Just back from a visit to a Washington man declares that conditions in that State, especially in North Missouri, are going from bad to worse. "Last year in the wheat fields," said he, "I saw a bush receiving six and seven dollars a day, with board, but the present rate is two dollars a day and board. In St. Louis there is a rush to employment agencies each day, and early in the morning there is a jam to get through the crowds which congregate. And the Missouri people are denouncing the 'fake prosperity' that the Harding administration has brought. Hence the widespread cry of "Harding, Hell and Hard Times."

Report Linney Favorably

The Linney nomination went over the top today so far as the action of the Senate judiciary committee could take it. That committee, with no formal vote taken, according to Senator Overman, agreed to report the nomination favorably. There were present at the committee meeting a Republican majority, with only Senator Overman representing the Democratic minority. Senator Overman said that the Republicans had determined to report the nomination of Linney for District Attorney favorably, and he raised no objections. How he will vote before the matter of confirmation comes before the Senate he has not yet determined. The committee meeting today was an entire change of front on the part of the Republicans, for when Linney's nomination was taken up at its first appearance all the Republicans voted for an unfavorable report. Today it was for a favorable report that they acted. The nomination will be taken up in the Senate in the next few days, as will also be that of the Georgia negro, Henry Lincoln Johnson, for recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, for which Senator Ball has secured a favorable report by polling members of the District of Columbia committee now in Washington.

Railroads About Face

There is a mad crowd of North Carolinians here tonight, these being secretaries of chambers of commerce, officials of North Carolina traffic association, representatives of a number of large shippers. According to Secretary M. B. Beaman of North Carolina traffic association and secretary of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, the railroads are going square back upon the position to which he declared a few days ago they had committed themselves, this being full compliance with the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission whose order was for a change in the Virginia rates so that North Carolina shippers and receivers might be put on a parity with their Virginia competitors. According to Mr. Beaman, the railroads today offered rates which while being decreased in some particulars still were increased in others, making on the whole an increase of freight rates for the State.

"We are not going to accept their figures," declared Secretary Beaman, "if when the formal conference comes in the morning there is no change from the rates which they proposed today we will fight them to a finish, and take the case back to the Interstate Commerce Commission in order to have a drastic order issued by the commission. The railroads are not alone bucking the commission's order in these rates, but they are planning to increase the rates from Virginia into North Carolina and vice versa. The Virginia representatives at the conference today are of one mind with us in this matter, and we are going to make the fight against these proposed rates in unison. The railroads are treating us badly in this matter, as they are in the Virginia-Carolina rates which the Commission ordered and we are not going to sit still and take the rates they propose, for they are unjust to North Carolina. If we find it necessary we are going to ask the North Carolina delegation to go in a body to the Interstate Commerce Commission to insist that the railroads be made to obey the order of freight rate reduction which the commission ordered. At present the railroads are bluntly refusing to do this."

Here today in the informal conference with the railroad officials were Albert L. Cox, of Raleigh, attorney for the North Carolina Traffic Association, associated with J. H. Fishback an attorney of Washington, and M. R. Beaman in the rate case fight, both of whom were also present; W. G. Womble, of Raleigh, rate clerk of the North Carolina Corporation Commission; C. W. Roberts, secretary of the Greensboro chamber of commerce; C. H. Turner, president, and C. E. Hope, sec.

Hoover Recommends Plan

Secretary Hoover said today that he had recommended such a plan and that his recommendation had been approved by Secretary Mellon and Eugene Meyer Jr., managing director of the War Finance Corporation. Investigation, Mr. Hoover said, had convinced him that the broadening of the powers of the War Finance Corporation, making it the great governmental agency for bringing about the necessary economic readjustments of the nation, will be suggested by President Harding tomorrow in a special communication to Congress, according to forecasts tonight in high administration circles.

The special letter from the President, it has been announced, will deal primarily with the proposed financial settlement between the government and the railroads. But according to statements by administration leaders, it probably will go further and recommend not only that the War Finance Corporation take charge of the railroad settlement, but also that it be placed in direct and practically sole charge of farm credits and export financing.

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State Owns Not Only Quarry But Federal Cemetery Besides

Admission of Ownership, But Still No Power to Start Pumps Going; Morrison Passes Burden to Building and Grounds Committee, But They Are Without Law; Suggested Now That Superior Court Order Quarry Drained.

Not only did the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds reverse its disavowal of ownership of the Rock Quarry yesterday, but it went further and extended its claims to include not only the quarry itself, but much adjacent property upon which squatters have settled, and to some six or seven acres of the land where sleep some hundreds of Yankee soldiers, buried there during the Civil War.

Declaration of ownership was issued after Governor Morrison had called upon Secretary of State Grimes from the Summer capital and transmitted to him Solicitor North's request for aid in draining the quarry as the first step toward the revulsion of whatsoever mysteries that lie under the green waters of the pool. He passed the request on to the committee with power to act.

Still No Answer. Yet the question of draining the quarry, which has stuck like a burr in the minds of most people in Central Carolina for nine days remains without a good healthy "No" or an equally decisive "Yes" for an answer. The Board which is custodian for all the State property can't find any law, and unless it just takes "the bull by the horns," as says Colonel Grimes, the answer is likely to be negative.

There seems to be no law by which any legally constituted authority is willing to work the pumps with. The city authorities say that the property is the State's, and nothing more than curiosity wants it dried out. The Insurance Department can act only when there has been a fire, and the committee is entirely without authority to incur expense in getting the water out of the quarry. Nothing remains now, it is pointed out, but a bench order from some superior court judge directing the county commissioners to pump it out.

Grimes and Lacy Inspect. Colonel Grimes and Treasurer Lacy and Assistant Attorney General Frank Nash got out all the old maps and laws and took them out to the quarry yesterday afternoon after the Governor has been heard from, and arrived at the conclusion that the State had a lot of land out there. Today surveyors will go out with their instruments and see just how much the State owns, and who is living on it who ought not to.

Peaceful at Quarry. Meanwhile if there are automobiles at the bottom of the quarry, if there are "corpi delicti" there, or even if there are uncounted cases of genuine bottled-in-bond liquor there, nothing appears likely to disturb them. Information that emanated from the same source, as that which started the investigation, declares that there are not less than three other automobiles in the quarry, and now it is alleged that the body of a Greek citizen who disappeared mysteriously a year ago, is hidden there.

Some hopes sprang up in the city. (Continued on page four.)

EXPERTS DISAGREE ON AMERICAN PLAN TO VALUE IMPORTS

American Valuation Provision of Tariff Bill Before Senate Committee

TWO MEMBERS OF TARIFF COMMISSION ARE HEARD

Chairman Thomas W. Page Contends Valuation Provision Means Higher Prices On American Commodities While William Burgess Says It Is Only Feasible Plan

Washington, July 25.—Disagreement of experts as to the practicability of American valuation provisions proposed in the Fordney tariff bill, marked the first consideration given the measure today by the Senate finance committee. The committee heard statements by Thomas Walker Page, chairman, and William Burgess, a member of the tariff commission, but their views differed widely as to what effect the suggested basis of levying import duties would have on the consumer on the one hand and on the manufacturer and merchant on the other.

Mr. Page contended the new plan meant higher prices on American commodities which compete with imports subjected to the import tax, while his colleague on the commission held that pyramiding of prices was no more likely to result under the home value basis than under the present system of assessing duties on the foreign value. He insisted that the American valuation plan is to defeat undervaluation of imports and therefore gather more revenue, but the object, Mr. Page said, was phantom, like in character for the reason that little fraudulent valuation had taken place. Mr. Burgess submitted figures which he declared showed undervaluation of imports in 1920 to have been discovered in 25 per cent of all shipments subject to ad valorem rates.

No Other Method

Mr. Burgess told the committee there was no other method by which the government justly could levy assessments on imports in view of the fluctuating exchange rates. He said it presented the only possibility of customs officers obtaining accurate valuation figures on imports and that such were vitally important because of their effect on the ultimate amount of revenue collected. It also would avoid discrimination in the tariff rates against countries whose money has not depreciated and in favor of those whose currency is at a low ebb compared with American money.

Has No Other Way In It

"There is no other way of meeting the exchange situation except by this American valuation provision," Mr. Page added, "but I do not believe it will accomplish what is claimed for it. I think it will fall far short of what it is supposed to do and at the same time will keep business moving in the dark, for no one knows what its effect is going to be and no one can tell what effect it will have on different commodities."

LABORER STOPS FLOW FROM FLAMING OIL WELL

Defies Intense Heat With Asbestos Shield In Effort To Extinguish Blaze

Mexico City, July 25.—Guarded by an asbestos shield, a laborer in the Amatlan oil fields yesterday approached to within a few yards of a blazing well, known as Number Five, and after spending fifteen minutes in the terrific heat, with flaming oil falling all around him, succeeded by frantic efforts in nearly closing a valve which controls the oil supply.

KINSTON WOMAN DIES AS RESULT OF SHOOTING

Kinston, July 25.—Mrs. Effie Redd, 32, widow and mother of five children, died early today from wounds inflicted yesterday by Lennie Best, who committed suicide after shooting the woman. Mrs. Redd made no statement before dying. Best, who was conscious the half hour he lived after the shooting, said nothing to indicate the cause.

HOUSE COMMITTEE TAKES UP TASK OF REVISING TAX LAW

Will Begin Actual Work of Altering The Revenue Laws at Sessions Today

HARDING GETS DETAILS OF MR. FORDNEY'S PLANS

Talk of Restoration of 3 Cent Postage Stamp To Raise Revenue; Stamp Taxes of Various Kinds Also Suggested, As Well as Flat Tax On All Corporations

Washington, July 25.—Plans for building a new tax law took more definite form today as preparations were completed for the actual beginning tomorrow of revision of the revenue laws by the House ways and means committee.

President Harding heard details of what House leaders propose to do from Chairman Fordney, of the committee, during the day and information leaked out indicating that the three cent postage stamp might be resorted to as a revenue producer. The return to the three cent stamp was understood to have been discussed at the conference Saturday between Secretary Mellon and Mr. Fordney and other Republican members of the ways and means committee. The suggestion will be taken up with the Postoffice Department before any further moves are made, however, it was stated.

Talk of Stamp Tax

In the search for methods of raising around four billion dollars a year, members of the committee were declared to have talked also of a stamp tax on bank checks, but that suggestion was understood to have been frowned upon by the treasury. Other stamp tax proposals may get some consideration in the committee, but members said officially they feared the reaction from them.

Mr. Mellon, it was said, had told the committee that he was opposed to the use of any kind of "sales tax" to supply the excess profits levy, which, it is conceded, will be abandoned. He was represented as being favorable to a flat tax on corporations, believing that such a tax would offset losses due to the contemplated repeal of the profits and some minor assessments.

As To Corporation Tax

Committee leaders declared they believed the corporation tax would take the form of a fifteen per cent levy on incomes with the exemption of \$2,000 in net effect abolished. Representative Longworth, Republican of Ohio, who has a bill making such provisions, said the corporation tax would yield around half a billion dollars a year. Mr. Longworth's bill also would reduce the higher surtaxes on incomes and his plan in this respect was said to have the treasury secretary's approval.

The opening session of the hearings tomorrow will include discussion of about all phases of revision, according to the calendar posted tonight by the committee. Mr. Fordney said he would insist on concluding the open session in four days. He believed the House would get the measure in about three weeks, but other House leaders, including Representative Mann Republican, Illinois, said the bill could not be put into shape that quickly.

SERIOUS FIRE BREAKS OUT ON CUNARD LINER

Mauretania, Docked at Southampton, In Danger of Destruction By Blaze

Southampton, July 25.—(By the Associated Press.)—Fire broke out today in the first cabin of the Mauretania, of the Cunard Line, sister ship of the old Lusitania, and spreading rapidly, developed into a most serious conflagration. At 8 o'clock tonight, many hours after the outbreak, the flames were still eating into the interior of the great steamship, and it was certain that the fire fighters would be at work through the entire night.

The fire is supposed to have originated from a lighted cigarette dropped upon the carpet in the main saloon, and it had made very considerable headway before it was discovered. In addition to the fire brigades, tugs assisted in the efforts to save the vessel. The firemen worked under great difficulties from stagings slung over the side, from which points of vantage they projected vast quantities of water through the portholes into the cabins. So great was this volume that the liner, which was lying at her dock, took a dangerous list to starboard. Timely action of the pumps however, enabled her to right herself.

ANNOUNCE FAILURE OF CHANDLER BROS. AND CO.

New York, July 25.—The failure of the firm of Chandler Brothers & Company was announced from the rostrum of the Stock Exchange today. The firm is a member of both the New York and Philadelphia exchanges, with offices in Philadelphia. Its notice to the New York Exchange merely stated that it regretted its inability to meet its obligations. No hint was given of the liabilities. The firm was organized in January, 1914. The member is Frederick T. Chandler, Jr. The others are Earl Mindenhall, Lewis E. Waring and Edward B. Little.

Receivers Appointed

Philadelphia, July 25.—Edwin J. Gillilan and Cornelius Haggerty, Jr., were today appointed receivers for the firm of Chandler Brothers & Company, whose failure was announced on the New York Stock Exchange.

HARDING ASKS FOR REPORT ON FAMINE IN COTTON STATES

BEAUFORT YOUNG MAN KILLED BY PITCHED BALL. AT LOCAL BASEBALL GAME Beaufort, July 25.—Charles Noe, age 25, was struck over the head by a pitched ball and running to first base fell dead in a game between the "Leans" and "Fats," which had gone six innings here this afternoon. The players were amateurs who had arranged the game to secure funds to be given to a local charity. The young man leaves a widow, who was prostrated by the death, and two children.

Chief Executive Asks Public Health Service and Red Cross To Investigate The Situation Immediately

PROMISES FEDERAL AID IF CONDITIONS JUSTIFY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

President Expresses Alarm at Reports of "Semi-Famine" and Threatened Epidemic of Pellagra In Southern States, and Wants No Time To Be Lost In Ascertaining The Actual Conditions; Reported Famine Condition Said To Be Result of Depression and Inability of Thousands To Get Proper Variety of Food To Ward Off Pellagra; Writes Letters To Red Cross and Public Health Service

Washington, July 25.—Alarmed at reports of a threatened "semi-famine," coupled with an epidemic of pellagra in a large section of the Southern cotton belt, President Harding today requested both the Public Health Service and the American Red Cross to make immediate investigation and report what could be done by the Federal government to relieve the situation.

The fullest co-operation on all Federal agencies in the relief measures was promised by the President, who declared that if found necessary, Congress would be asked to pass special legislation. He urged that no time be lost in ascertaining the actual conditions and applying to them an effective remedy.

Many Need Good Food

The threat of "famine and plague," the President wrote to the health service and the Red Cross, seemed to arise from the fact that depressed markets had made it impossible for the people of a large section of the South to sell their stocks of cotton. The resulting shortage of money, he said, apparently had deprived many thousands of the variety of food necessary to ward off pellagra.

President's Letter

The President, in his letter to Surgeon General Crampton, said: "I have been greatly concerned to note the public statement from the Public Health Service as to the menace of pellagra and conditions of at least semi-famine in a large section of the cotton belt. That such a condition is obviously a temporary incident to the economic dislocation following the war, cannot lessen our concern. Famine and plague are words almost foreign to our American vocabulary, save as we have learned their meaning in connection with the afflictions of lands less favored, and toward which our people have so many times displayed large and generous charity.

Immediate and effective measures of amelioration are manifestly demanded, if conditions even approach the gravity suggested by the public health report. It is unthinkable that we should delay for a single day the institution of such measures.

Therefore, I am writing to ask you for the most complete possible report that can be made at once—provided there is anything to add to what you have already made public—and especially for suggestion of proper measures to deal with the situation.

"I am also writing to Dr. Livingston Farrand, head of the American Red Cross, in the same tenor, and suggesting that co-operation between this organization and your own might be helpful, having in mind the need for haste in making a full survey, and in planning relief measures. I wish you both to be assured of my co-operation and of all aid that can appropriately be given through the executive department and to know that if full information about the situation shall make apparent that legislative action is necessary, I will on a proper showing be prepared to ask the requisite authorization from the Congress."

Letter To Dr. Farrand

In his letter to Dr. Farrand, Mr. Harding said: "Recent reports of a distressing condition among the rural population in a large section of the cotton belt, are confirmed by a public statement from the Public Health Service. They indicate that due to the 'depressed' cotton market, many thousands of people are unable to sell their crop product for money wherewith to obtain a necessary variety of wholesome food, and that there is grave threat of an epidemic of pellagra.

Wants All Facts

"Moved by a realization that there must be no delay in coping with such a condition, I am writing to ask if the Red Cross can make an immediate investigation and report the present situation, the outlook for the future, and the measures necessary for prompt and effective relief. I am enclosing a copy of the report which Surgeon General Crampton has just received from the Public Health Service."

TEXAS LEGISLATOR IN ATTACK ON KU KLUX

Austin, Tex., July 25.—William J. Simmons, of Atlanta, Ga., leader of the Ku Klux Klan, and "any man who admits membership of the Ku Klux Klan is a party to every crime the organization commits," Representative Postman, of Cass county, declared in the lower house of the Texas legislature today. He was speaking on a resolution signed by himself and other members protesting against Simmons' reported intention of sending representatives into Texas to investigate the Klan's activities.

Representative Postman directed his remarks at Representative Eaker, who had just concluded a speech defending the Ku Klux Klan, but declaring that Simmons was not connected with the Texas organization. Eaker also had protested against Simmons sending representatives to this state.

Mr. Postman asserted that the legislators also "is a party to every crime if it sits idly by and does nothing to curb the lawlessness of this organization."

OCRAOKE BOY WAS DRESSED AS GIRL

Young Man Masquerades Successfully As of Feminine Sex Until 21 Years Old

How a young man masqueraded as a girl from the time of his birth until he reached the age of 21 years of age, is the strange tale—and it is absolutely true—brought back from Ocracoke by Washington visitors who have just returned from the island, according to the Washington, N. C., News.

Vera Williams was the name of the "girl." Charles E. Williams is the name of the man. Williams' mother, it is said, had her heart set on a girl-baby. When the boy was born she determined to dress him as a girl and not say anything to anybody about it. He was dressed as a girl and he went as a girl until he reached the age of 21 years. During all that time no one ever entertained any suspicion but that he was what he represented to be. In fact, it is said that at various times several of the young men of the island courted him.

When he reached the age of 21, however, Williams decided that he had had enough of masquerading. Without saying anything to anybody about it, he sent off to a mail-order house and bought a complete outfit of men's wearing apparel. When the stuff arrived he concealed it in his room. That night, after the rest of the family had gone to bed, he proceeded to make some alterations in his personal appearance. He cut off his hair and he cast off the female wardrobe that he had been wearing for so long.

The next morning, when the mail boat left for Beaufort, a young man got aboard, whom no one recognized, in spite of the fact that all of the passengers had been knowing him—or her—for many years. From Beaufort he went to Baltimore, where he succeeded in getting a job in a restaurant. Finally he returned to Ocracoke, and he's living on the island now. He's a splendid specimen of manhood and those who knew him cannot help but wonder how it happened that they had never had any suspicions concerning him before.

TWO DROWNED AT SWANSBORO BEACH

Walter Bunting Mattocks, of Maysville, and Boy From Belgrade Drown

New Bern, July 25.—A pall of gloom has been thrown over this entire community following the drowning at Swansboro Beach Sunday afternoon at 5:30 of Walter Bunting Mattocks, 21 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Mattocks, of Maysville, and the 13 year old son of W. C. Gerock, a well known citizen of Belgrade.

Young Mattocks was one of Jones county's most prominent young men and well known throughout Eastern Carolina. Quite a party of young people from Maysville and Belgrade had motored over to the beach for the afternoon and went in bathing in the surf which was rough and had a strong undertow. A group of five or six stepped into a slough and were carried under. Every attempt to resuscitate the two young men was of no avail.

Walter Mattocks was a second year medical student at the Medical College of South Carolina at Charleston, S. C. He was possessed of a loyal, generous, and lovable disposition. Beloved by all the young people, honored and respected by his elders as a promising young man and related to most of the prominent families in this part of the State, his death has been universally mourned in Maysville and deep felt grief for his many relatives.

Young Mattocks was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Mattocks. Mrs. Mattocks was Miss Virginia Whitely, of Pollockville, before her marriage. Young Mattocks was born on October 15, 1900. The funeral service was held from the Mattocks family residence at Maysville this afternoon at 5 o'clock followed by interment in the old Whitely and Haywood family burial plot in Poollocksville cemetery. The funeral was conducted, according to the rites of the Methodist church of which he was a member. The funeral arrangements of the other young man could not be learned but it is presumed that he will be buried in Belgrade this afternoon.

May Suggest Broadening Of Corporation's Powers

President Harding Expected to Ask That Finance Corporation Be Made Agency for Bringing About Economic Readjustments in Communication to Congress Today

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