

WEATHER

Showers tonight, probably ending Saturday morning; little change in temperature.

The Times - News

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1933

GOOD AFTERNOON

Gent named Popolousovitch came to America to make a name for himself. He did. Changed it to Jones.

VOL. 52—No. 107

SINGLE COPIES, FIVE CENTS

THOUSANDS RETURN DAILY TO WORK

B. F. Freeman Is Exonerated In Reid Death

Coroner's Jury Says Death Due to Blow at the Hands of Freeman But That Act Was Justifiable and Orders His Release

A coroner's jury late yesterday exonerated B. F. Freeman, Bat Cave merchant, of all blame in connection with the fatal injury of Will Reid, also of Bat Cave, at Freeman's home last Saturday night.

At the close of a lengthy hearing in the city court room, conducted by Coroner J. F. Brooks, the jury returned a verdict declaring that "Will Reid came to his death due to a blow at the hands of B. F. Freeman," and that "from all the evidence we find that the act of Freeman was justifiable and that he is discharged."

Reid died Sunday morning in Patton Memorial hospital as the result of a skull fracture which he suffered when he fell to the highway pavement in front of Freeman's home. Testimony at the inquest showed that he had gone to see Freeman because of a derogatory remark which he said had been reported to him, that he threatened to get Freeman and started up the steps with a hand in one of his pockets, that Freeman repulsed him with a chair, and that he fell backward to the pavement. Dr. J. S. Brown, attending physician, told the jury that death was caused by the fall and not by any blow struck by a chair or any other object. While none of several witnesses testified directly that Reid was drunk, he was described as having been in "bad condition" supposedly from liquor.

Witnesses at the inquest, all living in the Bat Cave, Chimney Rock or Bear Wallow sections, included Paul Dalton, Miss Blanche Harris, Louis Frant, Frank Freeman, Jack Barnwell, Charlie Blanton and Mr. Freeman, and T. J. Gilliam, deputy sheriff, and Dr. Brown of Hendersonville. Jurors were V. C. V. Shepherd, D. M. Wells, R. L. Feider, Edney Henderson, P. P. Brothers and H. W. Harris.

A crowd that filled the courtroom attended the inquest. State's witnesses told substantially the same story as did Freeman himself, even corroborating in detail such incidents as the finding of Reid's knife, with one blade open, beside his body on the highway. While interest was intense there was no demonstration either while testimony was being taken or when the verdict was returned about 20 minutes after the jury received the case.

The account of the tragedy as related by Freeman on the stand and substantiated in the main by most of the witnesses, was that Reid went to the Freeman home about 9 o'clock Saturday night. (Continued on page 4.)

SENATE LIMITS SCHOOL TERMS TO 8 MONTHS

Tightens Griffin Bill and Sends It to House for Concurrence

EXTRA TAX UP TO PEOPLE AT ELECTION

By J. C. BASKERVILL, The Times-News Bureau, Sir Walter Hotel

RALEIGH, May 5.—Deciding that the Griffin school machinery bill was still not tight enough and did not contain enough limitation, the senate adopted an amendment by Senator Clement of Iowan limiting the school term over the entire state to eight months and no more, then passed the bill on second reading by a vote of 46 to 7 late yesterday afternoon. The bill is expected to pass third reading today with little or no opposition. Five of the seven votes cast against it on second reading were by senators who thought the bill still was not strict enough.

If the house now passes the bill in its present form, as many think likely, none of the larger cities in the state will be able to operate their schools nine months, as they have in the past, but will be limited to eight months, as set up in the state-wide eight-months school term law. They will be permitted to levy supplemental taxes for the eight-months term, however, but only after submitting the question to a vote of the people.

The school forces of the state through their lobbyists and the officials of the North Carolina Education association, opposed the bill and made every effort to defeat it. They have openly been favoring the school machinery bill in the house which would permit the levying of supplemental taxes without a vote of the people, either for supplementing the 8-months term or for an extended term of nine months.

An amendment by Senator Hines of Wake county that would have limited supplement for teachers' salaries to not more than 10 per cent of the amount received by the state, was defeated. The objection to this amendment was that it would fix a definite limit on the amount rather than the maximum, with the result that many counties or districts would want to levy a tax for a 10 per cent supplement, when a 5 per cent supplement would be sufficient. The bill leaves the amount of the supplement to be determined by the state school commission.

The amendment by Senator Moore, to fix a limit on supplements for teachers' salaries, extended term and maintenance to not more than 20 per cent of the amount received from the state, and then only by a vote of the people, was also defeated.

Whether the house will pass the bill as it passes the senate, refusing to permit the larger cities to have a nine months school term, is regarded as doubtful, although it is agreed there is little chance that the house will adopt the Aycock school machinery bill in the house, which is supported by the school forces. It is agreed, however, that the larger cities that have been having a nine months term will put up a bitter fight to retain this right. The delegations from the counties having these larger cities—Guilford, Mecklenburg, Buncombe, Forsyth, Wake, Durham and a few others—will make a great deal of influence in the house and it would not be surprising if they secure the adoption of an amendment to permit the larger city charter districts in these counties to levy supplemental taxes for a ninth month, provided the people affected vote for it in a special election.

The house is in no mood to compromise with the school politicians, however, as indicated yesterday when it passed the Womble resolution calling upon the North Carolina Education association to report to the general assembly all its receipts and disbursements. The resolution was introduced many weeks ago by Representative Womble of Wake county with the avowed purpose of showing up the lobbying activities of the North Carolina Education association. The bill was sent to the house education committee, where the (Continued on page 4.)

WILL RELEASE GANDHI SOON

Government Shuns Responsibility of Long Hunger Strike in Prison

MADRAS, India, May 5. (UP)—Mahatma Gandhi will be released unconditionally from his long imprisonment Saturday the United Press learned on highest authority today. His release will be ordered by the Indian government because it does not wish to take the responsibility of the outcome of a three weeks fast which Gandhi intends to begin Monday.

Mrs. Pinchot in Strike Picket Line

ALLENTOWN, Pa., May 5. (UP)—Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, wife of Pennsylvania's governor, joined "baby strike" picket lines today protesting against "outrageous conditions" in shirt factory sweatshops of Lehigh Valley.

ENGLISH POUND SOARS

LONDON, May 5. (UP)—The English pound, unsupported by the government's high equalization fund, soared in value today at two p. m. It was quoted at \$4.50 to which it had risen from the opening of \$3.92.

FIGURE IN CAPE COD KIDNAPING MYSTERY



Search for 10-year-old Margaret C. McMath (left), granddaughter of Francis C. McMath, millionaire Detroit industrialist, and the negro and two white confederates who kidnaped her from her school in Harwichport, Mass., spread throughout New England and out to sea as the girl's father, Neil McMath, made fruitless offers of ransom. In the center is Miss Ruth Holmes, school secretary, who received the abductors' phone call on which the girl was released from school (shown at right) to be met at the door by the kidnapers' car.

ROOSEVELT CALLS ON U. S. BUSINESS MEN TO INCREASE WAGES TO MEET PRICE RISE

In General Economic Discussion He Warns of Need of Fair Play

By FREDERICK A. STORM, United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, May 5. (UP)—President Roosevelt last night called upon the business leaders of the nation to increase wages at once to meet rising commodity prices. Speaking at the annual dinner of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Mr. Roosevelt presented a three-point program for industrialists, in dealing with their vast army of workers and in restoring economic security to all.

He asked for the following: 1. A more adequate wage scale. 2. Outlawing of unfair competition in the industrial system. 3. Abandonment of provincialism in considering the country-wide economic situation.

The address of the president was the first important public utterance of a chief executive since the Harding administration that was not broadcast. President Roosevelt struck out squarely in his pleas that labor be given immediate consideration. Pointing out that when price levels begin to rise after a long period of declining commodity prices, wages previously curtailed lag in the general process of economic readjustment.

"That result," he explained, "has in the past imposed upon those who labor, an unfair burden; has prevented their just and equitable share in the profits of industry and has limited the part (Continued on page 3.)"

Foreign Trade Interests Being Forced Out of Manchu State in Spite of Pledge for Open Door

By HERBERT R. EKINS, United Press Staff Correspondent

PEIPING, May 5.—(UP)—British and other foreign business interests are rapidly being forced to leave Manchoukoo despite Japan's pledge to maintain the "open door" policy, a prominent British business man asserted here yesterday. The man, a director of one of the firms involved, told the United Press that the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the Jardine Matheson Co., and other important British firms had already instructed their staffs to prepare to close their branches in Manchoukoo.

He declared this step was forced upon them on account of the rapid closing of the "open door" in Manchoukoo—formerly Manchuria—to foreign trade. He said the Manchoukoo government was placing intolerable obstacles to the free movement of the personnel of British business firms in the new puppet state, controlled by Japan.

NEW DRIVE FOR BEAUTIFYING CITY LAUNCHED

Those Willing to Co-operate Asked to Telephone Chamber of Commerce

The garden department of the Woman's club and the beautification committee of the Chamber of Commerce have launched the second annual community-wide beautification movement with the expectation of exceeding the very excellent work accomplished by these organizations last year when there were 51 entries in the contest.

Joint committees of these organizations in section yesterday decided to push the beautification campaign vigorously in the hope of making the city more attractive.

The committee will not find it necessary to give any attention this year to the general clean-up since the relief workers under the direction of Chief Otis V. Powers have done a very commendable work within the city. The committee's activities will center around the beautification of city parks and ornamentation of vacant lots by planting flowers.

The prizes this year will be awards of ribbons and printed awards of merit. There will be first, second and third prize organizations and separate contests for white and colored people. Relief labor has been promised for the preparation of vacant lots but help cannot be granted to those who desire labor for use on their own residential premises.

The people are requested to communicate with the Chamber of Commerce and indicate their willingness to plant the front of some vacant lot near their residence in order that relief labor may be furnished for preparing the soil.

These seeding seeds and plants (Continued on page 3.)

KIDNAPING SEARCH IS STILL ON; FRIEND OF M'MATH'S OFFERS SELF AS A HOSTAGE

DIXIE WINDS KILL A SCORE

Alabama Towns Report Hundred or More Injured

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 5. (UP)—Tornado winds killed at least 21 persons and injured approximately 100 at scattered Alabama points just before dawn today.

Hit hardest was Helena, 20 miles south of here, and Demopolis, 100 miles southwest. The storm dipped at Adamsville, 13 miles from here, injuring one. Reports of injuries and possible deaths at Centreville were made by railroad officials.

Confirmation was lacking as communication lines were down in all stricken areas. As clue upon clue fizzled during a day crammed with furious activity by forces of the law on scattered fronts, federal, state, county and local authorities seemed to have reached a "dead end."

LAZARUS THIRD PARTY IN SUIT

Judgment of \$5000 Not Against Him; Other Court Decisions

A judgment against George Lazarus as reported yesterday in The Times-News was not actually against Mr. Lazarus, it was learned today. It was declared that judgment for \$5,000 and the dissolving of a restraining order had been recorded in superior court against Mr. Lazarus.

Mr. Lazarus today called attention to the fact that he was brought into the case as a third party in the following manner: A loan on property in the amount of \$5,500 was made to Mr. Lazarus by the Guaranty Title Co. A payment of \$500 was made on this and \$8,000 was borrowed from the Equitable Assurance Co., and the balance of \$5,000 paid. The Guaranty Title Co. was placed in bankruptcy and bondholders of the mortgage were not paid off.

The judgment gave the bondholders of the Guaranty Title Co. the right to proceed with the sale of the property, and an appeal was taken by the Equitable Assurance Co.

In the court yesterday afternoon, Jack Bryson was awarded an easement on a road and \$25 damages in a suit against D. S. R. Willis and others.

The Federal Reserve bank of Richmond, Va., was awarded a judgment in the amount of \$4,103.12 with interest at six per cent on the payment of \$2,950 from the Taxaway Tanning company and others.

In the suit of the Federal Reserve Bank against Sam Kalin, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendant. The plaintiff was seeking to recover \$1,000 on a note discounted at the Reserve Bank by the Citizens National Bank and paid on the day the bank closed.

The General Motors Acceptance (Continued on page three)

IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IS WIDESPREAD

Country Now Experiencing Spurt of Unexpected Proportions

NATIONAL LEADERS SHOWING OPTIMISM

Copyright, 1933, by U. P. WASHINGTON, May 5. (UP). The steady improvement in business conditions in recent weeks has resulted in the re-employment of thousands of workers daily in the country's shops, mills and stores, a survey by the United Press revealed today.

Scattered business reports from industrial centers indicate that the country is experiencing a spurt of unexpected proportions, which if continued, may shortly raise activity to above the levels of a year ago. This would be the first time since the start of the depression 3 1/2 years ago that industrial activity exceeded the corresponding period of the preceding year.

Leaders of American industry here for the United States Chambers of Commerce meeting and also government officials who scan closely trends of American business are unusually optimistic over business conditions and believe that the current expansion is of more than the usual seasonal spring proportions.

Pent up buying demand accumulated during the long depression years was said to have been loosened by such administration steps as proposed inflation of money or credit determination to balance the federal budget by clipping a billion dollars off expenses and the forth-coming world economic conference which world business is expected to be set on a firm foundation.

Preliminary reports from various "key" industries like automobile, steel and retail trade indicate a real improvement in many directions. Steel operations in the country's mills this week approached 30 per cent of capacity, compared with the 10 per cent low over the year end and a 40 per cent rate at which it is estimated the industry can operate at a profit. Operations are the highest in more than a year for the second successive week.

Heavy retail sales of automobiles, which has necessitated a step up in production, had its immediate influence on the steel industry. Automobile output in April was estimated at 160,000 units, against 150,000 in April, a year ago, bringing output for the first four months of this year to the above corresponding period of last year.

Two other important barometers of business—car loadings and output of electrical energy—are so close to last year's level that only a few more weeks may elapse before they are exceeded. Output of electrical energy in the past week was only 1.8 per cent under the year ago and showed gains over a year ago in the northeastern sections of the United States. Preliminary car loading statistics for last week indicate that the loss from a year ago might be only a few per cent compared with the recent average loss.

Rising stock and commodity prices, which have reached the highest levels in many months, are said to have had a powerful influence in bolstering business sentiment throughout the country, in addition to "discounting" inflationary money threats, the rise in prices of various goods is believed to signify the confidence on the part of many buyers that values will not go lower.

Many economists point out that a steady rise in prices might indicate the end of the depression and the current upturn is being closely watched for a clue as to the immediate prospects of business.

THREE GUESSES

WHAT IS CORDELL HALL'S HOME STATE? WHICH CITY IS FARTHER NORTH—ROME OR NEW YORK? WHAT IS THE NAME OF THIS CURVED PLANE? For correct answers to these questions, please turn to page 5.