

CONFERENCE WILL SETTLE DOWN TO REAL WORK TODAY

Twentieth Annual Meeting Featured by Unusual Discussion Anent Bishop

ASHEVILLE REPORT HEARD WITH OTHERS

Presiding Elder Sherrill Furnished Sensation of The Day With His Request

HICKORY, N. C., Nov. 17.—The Western North Carolina conference of the M. E. Church, South, met for its 20th annual session in the First Methodist church here today with a large attendance.

Mr. Sherrill said rumors had been circulated touching his moral character and he asked for an investigation during this session of the conference.

A resolution was offered by R. L. Durham, a lay delegate, to the effect that no verbal reports be made to the conference by the pastors in order to save time.

Bishop Atkins objected to these remarks, and Dr. Christberg recalled them. Rev. D. Atkins, of the Asheville district, reports very encouraging progress this year.

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FIRE STILL RAGES IN SHAFT ABOVE THE ENTOMBED MINERS

Two Brave Men Make Attempt to Explore Mine And Almost Collapse

SULLEN MEN TRY TO BLAME MINE OFFICIALS

Troops on Guard to Prevent Any Disturbance Have Nothing to do

CHERRY, Ill., Nov. 17.—For the first time since Sunday, two men tonight took their lives in their hands and descended the ventilating shaft of the St. Paul mine in the fiery galleries of which more than three hundred men and boys lie dead.

The exploit was successfully carried out by Thomas Morris and R. V. Williams, both of the United States geological survey. They were nearly exhausted when hauled to the top but were quickly revived under the administration of stimulants.

From what they discovered it is thought the fire has moved back from the main shaft and that it may be possible to enter the mine soon.

It was declared that no other attempt would be made tonight to descend the fatal drift. Morris and Williams said that the scene in the pit was weird.

"All about us," said Williams, "the steam seemed to whirl and toss. There was little smoke and much less heat than last Saturday. Ninety feet down I noticed the timber supports were considerably scorched but lower down this was less noticeable. As we slowly descended I gave the signal frequently to stop, hoping when I reached certain depths to look into the galleries, but the steam was too dense. I did not see any bodies."

After four days the St. Paul coal mine bodies are still entombed in the bowels of three hundred or more miners as a result Saturday's fire today refused to yield up the dead. Utter failure to devise any satisfactory method of recovering the bodies left the situation the same tonight as it was last night.

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FUTURE OF SOUTH IN DEVELOPMENT OF ITS RESOURCES

President Finley Optimistic as to Outlook For Industrial Progress

SEES BEGINNING OF MOVEMENT TO FARMS

Attraction of Country Life Under New Conditions Call Young Men Back

SALISBURY, N. C., Nov. 17.—President Finley of the Southern railway addressing a large gathering of folk from the country side here today, and later speaking at a banquet of the board of trade, expressed the conviction that in no area of equal extent in the world is the agricultural outlook brighter than in the Southern states, and urged the farmers not to neglect the cultivation of cotton.

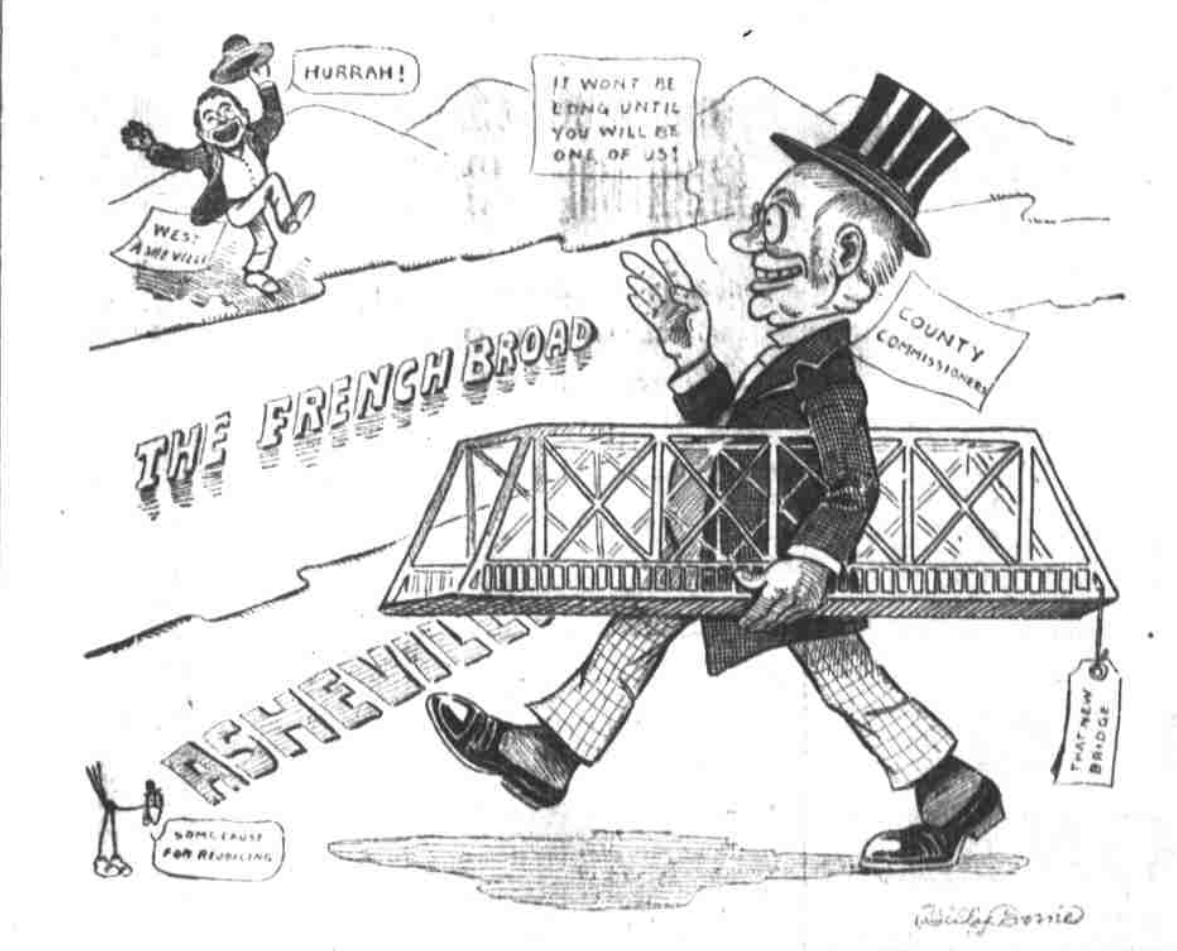
"We may well look forward to a time in the not far distant future," said Mr. Finley, "when the world will call on the American cotton planters for 20,000,000 bales every year."

Mr. Finley said he did not view with any alarm the tendency of young people to leave the farm, but said he believed the increased attractions of farm life would soon turn the tide in the other direction.

"In viewing the figures," said Mr. Finley, "it is not to be wondered that those responsible for the management of the railways of the South, seeing the agricultural advice going hand in hand with the industrial development, should have faith in their territory and should be striving to the utmost to increase the carrying capacity of their lines so as to be able to properly handle the increase in traffic which is sure to come."

Industrial Progress. Mr. Finley spoke on Southern industrial development and said in part: "The lines along which the industrial revolution made the most rapid progress were determined by economic conditions. Scattered throughout the South were a few cotton mills. They were prone to prosper under the new conditions. Ample supplies of cotton grown in the Piedmont section and in the nearby coastal regions were at hand. It was natural and inevitable that cotton manufacturing should lead the industrial development and said in part:

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MITCHELL DEFIANT DECLARES HE WILL NOT GIVE UP RIGHT TO SPEAK

In Dramatic Speech Following Endorsement of Boycott He Declares No Court Has Power to Keep Him Silent or Dictate What He Shall or Shall Not Buy With His Money.

TORONTO, Ont., Nov. 17.—Endorsing a report of the committee on boycott, John Mitchell, one of the three officers of the American Federation of Labor who are under sentence for contempt of court, made a dramatic speech to the convention of the organization at today's session. He declared that as far as he was concerned, regardless of consequences he intended while at liberty to declare for the rights guaranteed him by the organic laws of his country.

The report which drew forth Mitchell's speech and which was adopted by the convention among other things declared: "We say that when your cause is just and every other remedy has been employed without result, boycott; we say that when the employer has determined to exploit not only adult male labor, but our women and children, and our reasoning and appeal to his fairness and his conscience will not sway him, boycott; we say that when labor has been oppressed, browbeaten and tyrannized, boycott; we say that when social and political ends become so bad that ordinary remedial measures are fruitless, boycott; and finally we say, we have a right to boycott and we propose to exercise that right. In the application of this right of boycott, to paraphrase the president (Temper) we propose to strike on and on."

The convention broke into loud cheering for Mitchell as he concluded and there were cries for "Morrison." The secretary did not respond. President Gompers was absent.

Mr. Mitchell said he realized that every statement made by those on the convention floor, and especially by those who on next Monday will have to deliver themselves to the courts, is being closely scrutinized. "I want the people of the United States to know my position," he said. "I shall not speak definitely but let the consequences what they will. I shall not surrender any right guaranteed to me by the constitution of my country. I am not sure how much mental and physical suffering will be necessary to make me submit, but I know myself, not an amount of suffering will persuade me that I have not the right to spend my money where I please or that I have not the right to write and speak as I please, being responsible under the law for my acts."

"I understand that cognizance is being taken at Washington of the utterances of men of the floor of this convention, and I want clearly to state my position. I propose in the future, as I have in the past to exercise the rights secured to me by the fathers of my country, and I propose if I am sent to jail to declare again when I come out that I shall not for myself purchase any product of the Bucks Store and Range company."

"I repeat that so far as I am concerned, and let the consequences be what they will, I intend while at liberty to declare for the rights guaranteed to me by the organic laws of my country. I am proud of being an American."

Mr. Mitchell said he had grown up as an American with a step-mother so poor that she could not buy bread, and related how he had crept out of bed at night to get his father's soldier coat to keep him warm. "But I want to see the word American stand for all the sentiment that is symbolized by the flag of our country," he continued. "I want real liberty. I don't believe in the liberty enunciated by some of our courts that men and women should have the right to work themselves to death. I don't believe in the liberty enunciated by Judge Tullih of Chicago, who declared unconstitutional the ten hour law for women, and by that act compelled them to work fourteen hours a day."

Mr. Mitchell said he believed the present proceedings would bring home to the people the necessity of working in concert. "In the time going to come in our continent when the badge of faithfulness to be labor must be the brand of imprisonment?" He said in conclusion, "Surely I hope not. I hope that the government may be so conducted that no citizen may feel that he has not been given justice and an equal right with every other citizen."

The plan adopted of settling the disagreement among the Electrical workers was recommended to the convention by its committee on laws. It called for the appointment of a committee of three trade unionists to call the proposed convention of the Electrical workers.

UNIFORM DEMURRAGE RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE COMMISSIONERS

Time for Loading and Unloading Cars Free Fixed at Forty-eight hours CAUSES DISCUSSION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Despite opposition to the "forty-eight hour free time rule" and the failure to embody a "reciprocal demurrage rule," the National Association of Railway Commissioners, in convention here today adopted a uniform code of demurrage rules to be applicable alike to state and interstate transportation. This code was incorporated in a report of a committee headed by Commissioner Lane of the Interstate commerce commission. The object of the commission in approving the code was to facilitate its actual application to all transportation on the ground that demurrage rules, loosely drawn and laxly enforced, constitute one of the last strongholds of those who seek to render the law against discrimination impotent.

The fight against the adoption of the code was led by O. P. Gotthlin, of Ohio, who with William F. Shea, of Virginia, and John A. Webb, of Mississippi, minority members of the special committee, had prepared a number of amendments. Instead of allowing only forty-eight hours free time for loading or unloading cars with all commodities as recommended by the majority of the special committee, the three minority members reported in favor of seventy-two hours on cars containing more than 66,000 pounds. Their recommendation was defeated by a vote of two to one.

One of the most determined advocates of a limitation to forty-eight hours was C. F. Staples, of Minnesota. "I have often wondered why our farmers could not get cars in which to ship their grain," he said. "I now find out that it was because you fellows in New England and in Florida were keeping them ninety-six hours for unloading."

HIRED AS SLUGGER FOR UNION, HE FIXED BOMBS FOR NON-UNION MEN ALSO

Witness Confesses Series of Outrages Instigated He Says By Union GOT \$5 PER SLUGGING

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—The slugging of non-union men, the firing of buildings because union carpenters were not employed on them and the preparing of dynamite bombs were told today in the trial of Vincent and Joseph Altman who were indicted in connection with a bomb explosion that partly wrecked the mills of the Standard Sash and Door company in May, 1908. It was Verra's confession that caused the arrest and indictment of the Altman brothers.

Verra testified that he had been hired by Vincent Altman as a "slugger" and that he received \$5 each for several jobs of "slugging." He told of burning a garage with Vincent Altman because non-union carpenters were working on the building. Verra told of setting fire to a building owned by a policeman for the same reason. Another building at Harvey, Ill., was also fired according to Verra.

"In April, 1908, I met Vincent Altman in a saloon," said Verra. "He showed me three sticks of dynamite and said he was going to blow up some place. I was afraid of dynamite and said I would not go. Later I met him again and he told me he wanted to blow up the Standard Sash and Door company's plant. I said I would not go. Verra told of making a bomb at Altman's house.

After the explosion at the sash and door plant, Verra testified, President Metz of the carpenters' union, sent for him and told him if there was any dynamite at Altman's home to get it out of the way. Verra said he took the dynamite from Altman's house and hid it in a shed in the rear of his own house. Verra will continue his testimony.

GREAT ANXIETY FELT FOR THE SAFETY OF COL. ASTOR AND HIS CREW

Sailed From Jamaica in very Teeth of Storm Which Devastated Island CUTTERS SEARCH SEA

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Colonel John Jacob Astor, who is aboard his yacht Nourmahal, has not been in communication with New York for twelve days and it is likely he has not heard that Mrs. Astor obtained a decree of divorce from him November 8. Early that day, before the divorce formally was granted, Colonel Astor was reported to have sailed from Port Antonio, Jamaica, since then no word has been received of his whereabouts, and some concern has been felt for the safety of the yacht on account of the recent Western Indian storm. Mrs. Astor sailed for Europe on the Louisiana today. Vincent, the seventeen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Astor, is cruising with his father.

On board the yacht with Colonel Astor and his son when the yacht sailed from Jacksonville, October 15, were Richard Peters a cousin of Mrs. Astor, Vincent Astor's tutor, Herr Von Kallenborn, an ad crew of forty-five men and officers.

CUTTERS SEARCHING. WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Search is being made by the government for the missing yacht Nourmahal belonging to John Jacob Astor of New York. She is supposed to be somewhere in West Indian waters between Jamaica and Porto Rico.

The treasury department on request of anxious inquiries today cabled to the commander of the revenue cutter Algonquin at San Juan, Porto Rico to search for the Nourmahal. The yacht is reported to have left Port Antonio, Jamaica for San Juan, Porto Rico, over a week ago and has not since been reported.

GOVERNOR REPLIES

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 17.—District Attorney Edward R. Sims this afternoon filed the answer of the government to the petition of John R. Walsh convicted of misapplying the funds of the Chicago National Bank for a rehearing of his appeal.

REVISION COMMITTEE COMPLETES ITS WORK

Reduction in Penalties Against Low Grade Cotton Principal Change

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—The meeting of the revision committee of the New York cotton exchange was held after the close of business tonight and differences applying to the delivery of cotton in contracts were fixed for the balance of the trade year or until the meeting of the next revision meeting which will be held during September, 1910.

Widespread interest has been felt in the action tonight and after the result of the committee's deliberations had been made known, more or less general satisfaction was expressed as the charges were comparatively slight amounting to a reduction of from 85 to 20 cents in the penalties against low grade cotton, of which there is comparatively little in the local stock at the present time, and which is also reported to be scarce in the south.



WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Thursday; colder in east portion; Friday fair; moderate northwest winds.

MOREHEAD'S PROTEST LANDS JOB FOR HIS MAN

Secures Appointment of Constituent After Another had Been Selected

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—President Taft today settled the North Carolina census controversy which had been darkening the political moon around the white house for several days. Representative Morehead of the fifth North Carolina district had threatened to resign his seat in congress because he said he was the only republican representative who had not been consulted about the appointment of a supervisor in his own district.

Mr. Morehead has been a visitor at the white house every day since President Taft's return but left this afternoon entirely satisfied. He had recommended for appointment a friend and supporter, D. H. Blair. The director of the census, however, had secured the appointment of Prof. J. R. Glasson. Mr. Morehead registered a vigorous protest and today the appointment of Professor Glasson was revoked and the place will go to Mr. Blair. Professor Glasson will be given a position in the census bureau in Washington.

CONFERENCE MUST WAIT ON ELECTION

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 17.—Giving as a reason the desire to have all the ministers of the church remain in the field to work for the adoption of the prohibition amendment to the state constitution which is to be voted upon at a special election on Monday November 29, Bishop H. C. Morrison of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, today announced that the two annual conferences of the church to be held in this state had been postponed from next week to the week beginning December 1.

SUPREME COURT HANDS DOWN ITS DECISIONS

Hancock Sentence of Five Years Affirmed by Finding of Appellate Court

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 17.—Eighteen appeals were disposed of this evening by the Supreme court with opinions and otherwise as follows: Newbern vs. Wadsworth, Craven, new trial; Ball vs. Taylor, Pamlico, reversed; Drewry Hughes company vs. Davis, Union, error; Shives vs. Cotton mills, Orange, reversed; Roeyes vs. railroad, Guilford, affirmed; Bringham vs. Stadium, Guilford, affirmed; State vs. Cox, Randolph, new trial; Commissioners vs. Dorsett, Davidson, error; Howell vs. Railroad, Rowan, affirmed; Purefood Elliott, Randolph, new trial; State vs. Hancock, Forsyth, no error; Dunn vs. Railway, Surry, error; Wagon company vs. Riggin, Forsyth, affirmed; Kirby vs. Manufacturing company, per curiam, affirmed; Brown vs. Railroad, Rowan, per curiam, affirmed; Douglas Shoe Co., vs. Vaughan, Forsyth, per curiam, affirmed; Georgia Manufacturing company vs. Kerner, Forsyth, per curiam, affirmed; Commissioners vs. Chapman, Cabarrus, motion to dismiss allowed. The affirmation of State vs. Hancock means that L. G. Hancock must serve five years for embezzling about \$5,000 from the Lambfish Box Co., of Winston-Salem, of which he was manager.

BRIEF PROCLAMATION.

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 17.—Governor Kitchin's proclamation for Thanksgiving's observance, the briefest on record from a North Carolina governor, was issued tonight. He says: "A great and prosperous people to be happy must be grateful and charitable," and follows with concise paragraph directing usual observance.

TRUST DICTATED APPOINTMENTS IN N.Y. CUSTOM HOUSE

Former Official Declares he Was Ousted Because he Refused Bribes

SHAW PROMISED TO REINSTATE HIM

But he Found His Hands so Tied That he Could Not Keep His Promise

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Henry C. Cora, who once was employed as government sampler at the American Sugar Refining company's docks in Jersey City, added further interesting material today to the complicated controversy surrounding the frauds charged to the company and various customs officials and employees.

Cora was discharged from the government service seven years ago by reason, as he believes, of his efforts to obtain an investigation. In a lengthy interview today he reviews the obstacles he met, and recites experiences similar in many respects to those of Richard Parr and Edwin Anderson, who are defending their respective claims by being the original exposure of corruption in the customs house.

Trust Kept Him Out.

Wilbur F. Wakeman, a former appraiser brought Cora's name into the case some time ago when he attested to the fact of his discharge after he had brought to the government's attention convincing evidence of graft which, Cora says, was successfully hushed after he was ousted. His efforts to obtain re-instatement, Cora adds, were aided from time to time by Leslie M. Shaw, former secretary of the treasury, and other prominent men, but none of them, he declares, was able to overcome the grip the sugar company had on the New York customs service or to get for him the endorsement of George Whitehead, who succeeded Wakeman as appraiser.

Shaw Made Promise. In his interview of today Cora set forth that he went to Washington to present his case to Secretary Shaw, and the latter, he says, after a long conference said:

"I'll see that you are put back. I could demand it right now. But things are working so smoothly between Mr. Whitehead and myself that I don't want to break it abruptly on him with this demand."

A short time afterwards, according to Cora, he received a letter from Mr. Shaw stating that Shaw found his hands so tied that he could do nothing.

Cora says his evidence against the sugar company was to the effect that agents of the company has offered him bribes in return for his assistance in substituting sugar of a low grade in samples taken by the government for tests upon which cargoes were appraised. As a part of this evidence, he turned over to his superiors the money given him as a bribe.

The proposal for congressional investigation will be opposed by at least some of the officials in charge of the present investigation. It was openly said today by a government official such an inquiry would defeat its own ends, in that many of the guilty importers would be able to obtain immunity by testifying for the prosecution. In fact it is suggested that the importers themselves are working for an investigation by congress.

Philadelphian Disappeared in July After Trivial Dispute About Ring

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 17.—The body of a supposed tramp who died in a ten cent lodging house last Thursday was tonight identified as the remains of W. C. Lytle, vice president and general manager of the Motor Improvement company, once missing since July 15. Identification was effected by Albert L. Talcott, attorney, and a constable from a justice court who were summoned to the county morgue on advice from New York. Lytle disappeared immediately following a minor dispute over a diamond ring in which a woman procured his arrest. Worry over the trouble affected Lytle's bearing toward his friends, and a few days before the day set for his trial, he vanished. Talcott was his bondman, having signed for the \$1,000 bail warranty. Last week a ragged stranger appeared at the lodging house referred to and registered as M. Marlon. The next morning he was found dead, penniless. The cause of his death is still a mystery to the coroner and other physicians who examined him. Lytle came here from Philadelphia.