THE WEATHER

North Carolina: Rain Monday and probably Tuesday; cooler in north-east Monday.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

"DEDICATED TO THE UP-BUILDING OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA"

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12 PAGES TODAY

COOLIDGE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION ACHIEVEMENT BIG

Vice President Says First Year's Record Worthy of Great People.

ECONOMY NEARLY INCREDIBLE, STATED

Great Remedial Policies Being Adopted Fundamental in Principle.

NEW YORK, March 26.—The first year of President Harding's administration has been a period of progres with an almost incredible achievement in economy, Vice President Calvin Coolidge declared in an address today before the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Asserting that public employes had been reduced nearly 60,000, the army by 85,000 and large reductions proposed in the naval forces all of which were beginning to show in the government's appropriations were a little over a billion dollars, the vice-president said.

"Prior to the war the annual appropriations were a little otver a billion dollars. For the last fiscal year they were slightly more than five and one-half billions. For the present fiscal year it is estimated that this will be reduced to somewhat less than four billions and for the next fiscal year for which appropriations are now being made, there will be a reduction to about three and one-half billions. The interests and payments required by the public debt are about one million three hundred and fifty thousand. The cost of ministering the requirements of the veterans bureau is about one half a billion. The cost of the army and navy is over eight hundred millions and another quarter of a billion goes into pensions.

"If from present expenditures there be deducted those items that arise from the war and the extra amount now being epended on good roads and the army and navy, the present cost of running the government would not exceed the pre-war cost by more than two or three hundred millions.

"This represents an chievement in economy which is almost incredible."

Stating that the Washington arms conference "proceeded on the fundamental theory of substituting for the sanction of force in international relations the sanction of reason," Mr. Coolidge asserted:

Year of Progress Worthy Of a Great People.

"It has been a year of progress altogether worthy of a great people. It does not mean that the burdens of existence are to be lifted from mankind. It does not mean that military establishments are to be no longer required. An agrement to maintain a parity between navies is not an agreement to abolish navies. There will be a great saving of expenditure, but it will not be so much in present costs as in future requirements. These grand remedial policies which are being adopted are fundamental in principle. They mean that hereafter a larger proportion of human effort can go into productive activity. They diminish the material waste of extravagance in government and the spiritual waste of distrist in diplomacy. Liberty has taken increased guarantees. Reason is more firmly enthroned. Hope and faith are revealed more clearly as the great realities.

"An adequate organization for administering government relief of war veterans was one of the first domestic problems, he said, which later was placed under supervision of the veterans bureau.

"It is easy to realize," he added, "what a stupendous task this work is when it is remembered that there has already been paid to disabled veterans and their dependent relatives, about a billion and a half dollars and there is going out of the treasury each day close to a million and a quarter dollars. The government already has nearly 30,000 hospital beds and will soon have 35,000. There are about 29,000 already in hospitals who receive besides their keeping and care from $80 to $157 each month.

"The awards for compensation run over two hundred thousand each month and the awards for insurance over $140,000 while there are 15,000 compensation claims and 1,200 insurance claims received during the same time.

105,000 Men Rre Receiving Vocational Training.

"There are about 105,000 men receiving vocational training most of them under pay and at a maximum cost of $160 each per month. There are already in existence 107 hospitals which provide 152 employes for each 200 patients. There are 5,000 schools used throughout the country for training ex-service men and 7,000 institutions for replacement training."

He said the shipping board problem was "to get the government out of the shipping business with as little loss as possible and to provide an American merchant marine that American goods might not have to be carried to market in the ships of competitors and that there might be sufficient ships to provide for an adequate national defense. There is a fair prospect, he asserted, that the country will have a merchant marine, supported from a small proportion of the revenue derived from shipping and holding a place on the seas worthy of the American people.

Constructive economy, Mr. Coolidge said, has been the first thought and the chief effort of the present administration. To secure that, he declared, is to accomplish reconstruction.

"There has been a steady determination not to interfere in those European affairs with which we had no direct concern," he said. "When there was an attempt to place responsibilities on our government for the fixing of reparations, it was firmly declined, but with the assertion that reparations must be met to the limit of ability.

"There has likewise been a refusal to participate in the Genoa

—[Continued on Page Two]

FLOOD SITUATION IN MISSISSIPPI IS GROWING SERIOUS

With Great Tide in River Heavy Rains Pour in the Flooded Area.

FARMERS LEAVING HOMES, TRAINS CUT

Minor Repairs Being Made to Levees, 24 Hour Guard Maintained.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 26.—With heavy rains reported today throughout the Missouri and Ohio river valley and additional rainfall in central Mississippi valley expected tonight and tomorrow, weather bureau officials stated tonight it was impossible to issue a forecast on the probable rise in the lower Mississippi until the extent of the rainfall was determined.

The gauge at Memphis tonight stood at approximately 41.5 with the rising river at the rate of about 0.8 foot a day. The crest of the present flood in the Mississippi reached Cairo, Ill., last night when the gauge showed 53.6. Rainfall above Cairo is expected to bring another rise within a few days according to weather bureau officials. The crest of the present high water is expectde at Memphis Thursday night or Friday.

Heavy seepage in the levee above Mound City, Ark., early today and a force of workmen with 15,000 sacks rushed from Memphis. Tonight, however, it was stated there was no danger of a break. A large force of men are at work on an old levee near Peters, Arkansas, where minor trouble has been reported.

Between Hickman, Ky., and Tiptonville, Tenn., on the east bank, where the levee is very low the water is running over the embankment and spreading out over low lands. No damage of importance has been reported, although many farmers have been forced to move. At Hickman, the water is almost four feet below the top of the levee although the streets of the town are flooded with backwater.

Reports from Clarksdale and Greenville, Miss., the headquarters of the two state levee boards, say that no trouble has developed anywhere along the state line, engineers in charge at Greenville have ordered men and boats to various points where they can be in close touch with any situation which may develop. Guards are patrolling the Mississippi levee at intervals of five miles. Backwater from the smaller streams has covered the highways at many points in the river counties. Owing to the back water in the lower delta, the Yazoo and Mississippi valley railroad today cancelled trains on several branches. Thousands of acres of farm land in the lowlands south of Vicksburg are under several fee of backwater it is stated. Harry N. Pharr engineer of the St. Francis levee board, in charge of the embankments on the Arkansas side of the river from the Missouri line to the mouth of the St. Francis river said tonight that no serious trouble has developed anywhere along the line, although "sand boils" have appeared at several points which have been promptly repaired. Some seepage is occurring at the Oldtown levee, north of Helena, he said, and a force of men was kept at work last night strengthening the levee at that point.

Back waters of the St. Francis river are spreading rapidly, Mr. Pharr said although no serious damage has been done beyond forcing the residents in the low lands to move and compelling suspension of work in numerous small saw mills in that section.

PUPILS BARRED FROM MOVIES DURING SCHOOL

Virginia Authorities Take Steps to Prevent Any Absences

WINCHESTER, Va., March 26. Absences from Winchester public schools at afternoon sessions became so numerous recently that the school authorities began an investigation and described that 84 per cent of the absentees, both boys and girls, were at movie matinees. As a consequence the common council has drawn an ordinance forbidding admission of children to any theatre performance before 3:45. The authorities found that in some instances parents had written excuses for children who attended the matinees and in many others had given permission for the child to write his own.

MRS. YORK IDENTIFIES BODY OF HER HUSBAND

PITTSBURGH, March 26.—Mrs Kathleen York, aged 24, of New York, arrived this morning and identified the body of her husband, Michael York, whose body was found in a room at a hotel here yesterday with a bullet hole in the head. Arrangements have been made for sending the body to New York

Mrs York has been unable to throw any light on the death of her husband who the coroner decided, committed suicide She last saw him alive she said, in Cincinnati three weeks ago but had heard from him by long distance telephone every day until yesterday

ESCAPES STOCKADE BUT ASKS RIDE OF OFFICER

MACON, Ga., March 26.—W. G. Pate, 45, who claims to be a butcher from Detroit, Mich., who escaped from the city stockade last night, walked 30 miles along a main highway, going north, before he stopped an automobile and asked for a lift. The driver of the car was a deputy sheriff who recognized the clothing worn by Pate as the dingy brown of the stockade. Pate was returned here to complete a sentence on a charge of loitering pending an investigation of the passing of a number of worthless checks here and in Florida.

TRYING TO BRIBE SOMEBODY

(By BILLY BORNE)

Executive Body Of State Federation Confers on Sunday

Will Meet in Joint Session With Farmers Union Men Today

(Special Correspondence The Asheville Citizen)

GREENSBORO, March 26.—The executive committee of the North Carolina Federation of Labor met here today, headed by James F. Barrett, of Asheville, president of the organization, discussing policies in a general way. No action was taken on a questionnaire which it is proposed to submit to every candidate in the state in the elections this year. That matter will be taken up at a meeting of the committee o be held in Charlotte Tuesday night.

Tomorrow the labor organizations' committee will meet in joint session here with the executive committee of the North Carolina Farmers union. It is understood that a legislative policy will be outlined. The two groups will make plans to get together in matters of public action.

AUTOPSY SHOWS SHUFORD'S HEAD BADLY CRUSHED

Impossible for Him to Have Inflicted Both Wounds on His Head.

(Special Correspondence, The Asheville Citizen)

GASTONIA, March 26.—Sunday has brought no new developments in the Harry Shuford death mystery other than the report of the coroner's jury that the deceased came to his death at the hands of the unknown parties. Every possible motive including jealousy, has been examined but none of them throw any light on the strange tragedy. The verdict was reached after hearing the testimony of physicians and witnesses who were present at the post mortem examination of the head of young Shuford last night. It was disclosed at this autopsy that Shuford's head was fractured so that it was possible to lift the skull completely off without sawing an inch of the bone. It was shown that the bullet had gone clear through the brain and had lodged underneath the skin under the left ear where it was found and removed by physicians. A small round hole in the skull here marked its exit. Extending from the crushed wound in the front part of the skull to this exit hole was a fracture and the same fracture extended in the opposite direction around the back of his head. Four physicians who attended and conducted the examination declared that it was impossible for a pistol shot to have caused this sort of a fracture.

As further contradiction of theory that the pistol shot caused this facture is the fact that here are two separe and disinct holes in the right temple, one a clean round bullet hole, the other a jagged, rough cut under which the skull is crushed. Furthermore, the suicide theory is discounted by the plain fact that Shuford could not have dealt himself such a lick and then shot himself too.

The theory has also been advanced that his body was brought into the room after the fatal injuries had been inflicted elsewhere. There is no evidence of blood stains on the hotel stairs or in Shuford's room to substantiate this theory. There was no blood in the bed except around the head. When found he was lying as he naturlaly went to sleep except for the fact that the blankets were pulled down tightly over his head.

Every possible motive for the murder has been discussed and weighed by officials, in an effort to hit upon some clue that might lead to apprehension of the murderer.

Funeral and interment took place this afternoon in the presence of a huge crowd from this section of the state. The services were in charge of Rev. A. L. Stanford, pastor of Main Street Methodist church, and Dr. J. C. Galloway, pastor of the First Associated Reformed Presbyterian church, and Gastonia lodge number 369, A. F. and A. M. The floral offerings were beautiful.

The pall bearers were J. A. Hunter, Caldwell Ragan, R. G. Cherry, George A. Gray, Avriett and Rob McLean, all members of the American Legion.

SEAPLANE PILOT, REGAINING MIND TELLS OF HORROR

Party Was Many Times Near Rescue, but Ships Always Changed Course.

WOMEN DISPLAYED GREATEST COURAGE

Husband and Wife Refrained From Leaping to Their Death.

MIAMI, Fla., March 26.—Robert Moore, pilot of the lost flying boat Miss Miami, in a hospital tonight, fully recovered from his delirium, although still in grave danger of developing pneumonia, gave a graphic account of the scenes attending the death of his five passengers and his own 55 hour battle for life in the gulf stream clinging to the upturned craft.

"Please don't allow the people to praise. I have not done anything deserving praise. I don't want to be criticised, unless justly. All I want now is to give the world at large the facts," he began.

"We left Miami at 11:04 o'clock last Wednesday morning in the face of a stiff northeasterly wind. At 11:41 about three minutes out of Bimini something broke off the propellor. I automatically looked for a ship or a shoal to land by. I saw a fishing smack and volplaned down to the water about a mile away in its course.

"I asked the passengers not to be afraid. We were in no immediate danger and the craft was drawing near. The winds, however, were rising, and before long the full of the boat sprang a leak. The nose of the plane began rising, then a big wave came along and lifted us. The plane turned over and we were all thrown in the sea.

"My passengers were Mr. and Mrs. August Bulte and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Smith, of Kansas City; and Mrs. J. S. Dickson, of Memphis, Tenn. Mrs. Bulte came to the surface first, then Mr. Smith and Mrs. Smith. Of the three, none could swim. I succeeded in getting them to the over turned plane. Mrs. Dickson and Mr. Bulte had not appeared on the surface. Mrs. Bulte made this discovery.

Mrs. Bulte Missed Husband From the Plane.

"My God, my husband. Where is he?" she cried.

"I told her he would be all right in a few minutes and dived into the water. I could locate neither him nor Mrs. Dickson.

"Mrs. Bulte began to weep. I dived into the water and obtained cushions from the plane to use for life preservers. The other three passengers were on the fusilage of the machine. As I returned to them, I saw the body of Bulte floating. I steppel directly in front of Mrs. Bulte and obstructed her view. As the body passed me, I noted a wound on his forehead. He must have been killed before he struck the water when the plane overturned.

"Within the next 30 minutes the scene changed twice. On the horizon we sighted the fishing boat. We began to laugh and contemplate being picked up. I was confident we would be saved. In fact I felt like whistling. I believe it did. It keeps up my morale.

"And the fishing boat changed its course.

"I can't understand in God's world why he did not keep on toward us. He knew I was in that locality somewhere for he had seen me come down. I could see his name on the boat less than half a mile away as he went on. Why, oh why, did he not keep toward us?

"The winds rose during the night and the women grew weaker. At least 12 times they were swept away, but I swam out and got them and brought them back. The next day our hopes rose as we saw other boats pass, but none came within a mile and a half of us. I tried to keep up the morale of the others, but one of the women, Mrs. Smith, became utterly dejected. The other pleaded with her to hold out.

"We weathered the storm of Wednesday night after a terrible experi-

—[Continued on Page Two]

Armistice Between Greeks And Turks May Be Agreed To

Government and Sublime Port Accept Proffer With Reservations

PARIS, March 26.—(By The Associated Press.)—The Greek government has accepted the proposal made by the allied foreign ministers last week for an armistice between the Greeks and Turkish nationalists.

The reply to the proposal of the ministers, however, contains technical reservations on the national conditions.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 25—(By The Associated Press.)—The sublime porte considers the armistice proposal of the allied foreign ministers acceptable if the period of three months as the duration of the cessation in hosilities is reduced to one month. The government has advised the Angora government not to reject the proposal.

While the Angora government accepts the armistice in principle, its reply to the allies is not expected to be made in less than 10 days. The principal condition in Angora's counter proposal will be the evacuation by the Greeks of Thrace, with allied guarantees.

GEORGE GARREN FATALLY STABBED SATURDAY NIGHT

Hubert Maxwell Charged With Killing of Fruitland Man.

As a result of what is believed to be an existing spirit of ill-feeling, George W. Garland, of Fruitland, was fatally stabbed Saturday night about 7:30 o'clock in the churchyard of Ebenezer Baptist church, near Hendersonville, and Hubert Maxwell, also of that section, is held charged with the killing. He is held without bail in the Henderson county jail, and was arrested about 30 minutes after the killing. No statement has been made by him, county officials assert.

The fatal cutting was done with a small knife, with a blade of about two and one-half inches. A coroner's jury yesterday morning, following the inquest held at Hendersonville, returned the verdict "that Garren came to his death by wounds inflicted by a knife in the hands of Maxwell."

William Wall and Melvin Hill are important witnesses, but neither actually witnessed the killing, it is asserted, due to the darkness that prevailed over the churchyard. Hill states, it is asserted, that two or three minutes previous to the killing Maxwell was heard to curse Garren.

According to information furnished The Citizen last night, Maxwell was in the churchyard when Garren drove up in an automobile, and as he alighted from the car the trouble started. On account of the darkness, it could not be seen what either man was doing, witnesses testified, but the two men were seen to run around the automobile, and when they arrived on the scene Garren was found lying on the ground and it was found that he had been stabbed when he was lifted. A community song-fest was in progress in the church, it is stated.

It was learned last night that Garren was engaged to Miss Milda Guice, of Hendersonville, and Maxwell had been visiting her sister, but the young lady's father discouraged his attention and he had an ill-feeling toward Garren, it is stated.

Garren was 28 years of age and the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Garren, of Fruitland. He was engaged in farming with his father and, it was stated last night, had an excellent reputation and was well thought of in Henderson county. The Garren family is prominent in the Fruitland section.

Maxwell is about the same age, it is stated, and operates a farm in the ridge section. His parents recently moved west, and he remained in this section, continuing to operate the farm.

HUMAN CAPITAL BEING STARVED OUT IS CLAIMED

Position Taken by Labor Leader in New England Textile Mill Strike.

MORE OPERATIVES TO STRIKE TODAY

20 Per Cent Cut in Lawrence Mill Wages Causes Further Walkout.

NEW YORK, March 26.—Charges that "New England cotton mill owners are driving away and starving out the human capital on which the industry rests," in attempting to enforce wage reductions, were made here tonight by Russell Palmer, secretary of the Amalgamated Textile Workers of America.

Wages in the northern cotton mills, even before the present cuts, he stated were lower than those in many other industry in the entire country, except hosiery and knit goods. He declared the yearly earnings of male, skilled cotton operatives in the north averaged $1,085.44 before the recent cut without allowing for any unemployment whatever whereas "the minimum subsistence level" based on a study by the national conference board, an employers organization, at Fall River in 1919 and taking into account present prices was $1,109.04.

"This means" he added, "that wife and children as well as husband must work in the mills in order to keep body and soul together."

Comparing cotton wages in the north and south, Mr. Palmer quoted W. D. Adams, secretary and treasurer of the American Cotton Manufacturers' association, to the effect that 36 per cent must be added to southern wages to account for housing facilities provided in the south. With this addition Mr. Palmer said, southern wages were actually six to 20 per cent higher than those in the north after the recent cuts.

NEW ENGLAND'S TEXTILE STRIKE GAINING GROUND

BOSTON, March 26.—The New England textile strike situation takes on a new angle this week with its extension to the important cotton and woolen mill center of Lawrence. Seven mills in that city have announced a 20 per cent reduction effective tomorrow and some of the operatives have declared a strike. Anther mill has announced an indefinite shut down beginning tomorrow and the Lawrence textile council has declared this to be in the nature of a lockout. The big mills of the American Woolen company have not joined in the wage cutting.

The largest plant affected is the Pacific mills employing some 10,000 operatives. The six others at which wages are reduced employ a total of about 3,000. The wool sorters affiliated with the United Textile Workers of America, and first to declare a strike are planning to picket the Pacific and Everett mills tomorrow.

The strike situation in New Hampshire and Rhode Island, where thousands of operators have been idle for many weeks appears to be deadlocked.

The special state board of mediation and conciliation in Rhode Island has been dissolved after several futile attempts of wages and working hours. Efforts to arrange conference between strike leaders and manufacturers in New Hampshire have failed. Minor strikes are in effect at Lowell and Fitchburg, Mass.

The declaration that he strike in New England mills "will go to the limit to see whether the stockholders, by refusing to cut fat dividends can force workers to reduce their meagre wages" was made by Thomas F. McMahon preseident of the United Textile Workers of America, today.

Mr. McMahon was in the city on his way from Rhode Island to strike centers of northern New England.

McMahon Talks on the Strike Situation

Citing the case of the Pacific mills at Lawrence he said:

"The strike against the Pacific mills which begins tomorrow morning would never have been called if the company had treated its workers with a degree of justice which would stand comparison with the company's generosity to its stockholders. In 1921, a year of depression, the Pacific mills paid to its stockholders enough to have given every one of its 10,000 employees a 25 per cent wage increase instead of the 20 per cent cut they are trying to force upon us.

"This company paid out $2,400,000 in dividends in 1921 and continued the same rate of dividends in the first quarter of 1922. They are paying 12 per cent a year on their capitalization, in spite of the fact that the capitalization was increased in 1919 by $5,000,000 in stock dividends—a 33 1-3 per cent increase. They have a surplus of over $14,000,000—enough to pay the entire wages of these operatives for a year without a penny of other income and at the end of the year they would have a surplus remaining equal to more than 25 per cent of their capitalization.

"In 1921 the Pacific mills made a profit of over eight cents on every dollar of their sales, not much below their average profit for the war years.

"The trouble with the textile industry of New England is that it has capitalized its huge war profits by stock dividends. Now with sales slack, the mills determine to increase the margin of profit on their product so that dividends as big as in the war years can be paid.

"The figures which I have given will stand the most rigid test for accuracy. They were secured for the United Textile Workers in the course of an investigation of the industry which we are having made for us by the Labor Bureau, Inc., of New York and Boston.'

KANSAS NON-PARTISAN HEAD WILL QUIT

FARGO, N. D., March 26.—(By the Associated Press.)—A. C. Townley today announced he would present his resignation as president of the state Non-Partisan league to the meeting of the Minnesota organization in Minneapolis March 31.

Tentative Scheme On Merger Of Railways In Southeast Drawn

HEARINGS ARE TO OPEN APRIL 24 ON MERGER PLAN

Railroads of Southeast Are First to Come up for Consideration.

SEABOARD AIR LINE MAY FORM NUCLEUS

Economy, With Competitive Life Is Goal of Legislators.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN (BY H. E. C. BRYANT)

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The first move toward consolidating "the railway properties of the United States into a limited number of systems" has been taken by the interstate commerce commission, which has issued a call for a hearing on that subject for April 24. The roads of the southeastern region will start the ball going. A tentative plan has been formulated and will be used as a working basis.

The United States statute contemplates consolidation "into one corporation for the ownership, management and operation of the properties theretofore in separate ownership, management and operation."

"This," the commission esserts, "would seem to exclude from consideration general projects or proposals based in whole or in substantial part on contemplated running rights, trackage agreements and the like, or on new construction."

The requirements with which the commission must comply in preparing a plan for consolidation aret

(1) Competition must be preserved as fully as possible;

(2) Existing routes and channels of trade and commerce must be maintained:

(3) Subject to (1) and (2), the several systems must be so arranged that the cost of transportation as between competitive systems and as related to the values of the properties through which the service is rendered shall be the same, so far as practicable, so that these systems can employ uniform rates in the movement of competitive traffic and under efficient management earn substantially the same rate of return upon the value of their respective railway properties.

Tentative Merger Plan As Now Formulated

The commission found for the purposes of its tentative plan that the railway propertes of the southeastern region may be consolidated into the following systems:

"System No. 10—Southern: The Southern, Alabama Great Southern, Georgia, Southern and Florida, Mobile and Ohio, Southern railway in Mississippi, Northern Alabama, Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific, New Orleans Great Northern, Alabama and Vicksburg.

"System No. 11—Atlantic Coast Line-Louisville and Nashville: Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta and West Point, Charleston and Western Carolina, Louisville and Nashville, Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis, Louisville, Henderson and St. Louis, Western Railway of Alabama, Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, Norfolk Southern, Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic, Winston-Salem Southbound, Roanoke to Winston-Salem branch of Norfolk and Western, Florida East Coast, Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio, Georgia and Florida, Gulf, Mobile and Northern.

"System No. 12—Illinois Central-Seaboard: Illinois Central, Yazoo and Mississippi Valley, Central of Georgia, Seaboard Air Line, Lynchburg to Durham branch of Norfolk and Western, Gulf and Ship Island, Tennessee Central, Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio."

Professor Ripley, who worked out these systems, has made special recommendations. He recommends that the Richmond, Fredericksbrg and Potomac and the Florida East Coast retain their present status without inclusion in any system. The Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio may be included in either No. 10 or No. 12. Professor Ripley recommends that a separate system be built about the Seaboard Air Line.

The law provides that "the commission shall as soon as practicable prepare and adopt a plan for the consolidation of the railway properties of the continental United States into a limited number of systems. In the division of such railways into such systems under such a plan, competition shall be preserved as fully as possible and wherever practicable the existing routes and channels of trade and commerce shall be maintained. Subject to the foregoing requirements, the several systems shall be so arranged that the cost of transportation as between competitive systems and as related to the values of the properties through which the service is rendered shall be the same, so far as practicable, so that these systems can employ uniform rates in the movement of competitive traffic and under efficient management earn substantially the same rate of return upon the value of their respective railway properties."

"The tentative plan," the commission says, "was put forward in order to elicit a full record upon which the plan to be ultimately adopted can rest, and without prejudgment of any matter which may be presented upon that record."

BOSTON UNION WANTS NEW LABOR PARTY

BOSTON, March 26.—A resolution favoring the creation of a political party under the leadership and control of the American Federation of Labor was adopted by members of Boston local 13, of the International Typograpahical union, today.

Auckland Bishop To Be Prosecuted For Irish Speech

Alleged to Have Denounced British Troops in Ireland as "Foreigners"

WELLINGTON, N. Z., March 26.—The government has decided to prosecute Monsignor Liston, Catholic bishop of Auckland, on a charge of having made seditious utterances during a recent speech. It is alleged that he denounced the British troops in Ireland as "foreign troops."

Monsignor Liston at the time was glorifying the eastern rebellion in Ireland and is said to have declared that the Irish were martyrs and "proud to die for their country, murdered by foreign troops."

Strong protests were made by newspapers against the speech.

SIMMONS WOULD AVOID DITCHING OF BONUS BILL

Does Not Want Republicans to Pass the Buck —Says It's a Fraud.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

WASHINGTON, March 26.—If the republicans think they are going to ditch the bonus bill in the senate, they are reckoning without Senator Simmons, the minority leader of the finance committee. It is rumored under cover here that republicans are going to "throw" the Fordney bill and then charge the defeat of the bonus up to the democrats. Just how this is to be done is not indicated.

Senator Simmons and other democratic leaders are in no mood to let the republicans blame them with the failure of this legislation. They will see that it is passed on to the President. They hold the balance of power and can work with the bonus republicans, and that is what they intend to do.

"The President," said Senator Simmons, "must pass on this legislation. He has stated his views and the house leaders disregarded them. Now we will see what his final stand is. It has been reported about the capitol that once the bonus went through the house it would be smothered in the senate, as it was before, when the President sought postponement of action. This was the opinion of many representatives who voted for it. The bill is a fraud and holds out false hopes, but it can be amended and passed."

Senator Simmons is in fighting trim and will devote time and patience to this legislation. He resents the underground purpose of the republicans and will expose their hand if he can.

GIRL IS CONVICTED OF LENDING PRISONER AID

Shumaker Says She Did Not Know Saw Was in Bag With Bananas.

(Special Correspondence The Asheville Citizen)

GREENSBORO, March 26.—Miss Katie Teague, 16 years old, was fined $25 and the costs in municipal court at High Point Saturday on a charge of aiding M. D. Shumaker, 18, to attempt to escape from the High Point city jail. Her attorney, T. J. Gold, appealed the case to Guilford county superior court.

Shumaker testified that the girl did not know that a sack of bananas she passed through the bars to him while visiting him last Sunday afternoon contained a hack saw, with which he was found a few hours later sawing his way out. He stated that a boy whose name he refused to divulge, put the saw in the sack without the girl's knowledge.

CHARLOTTE BAPTISTS FORM NEW CHURCH ORGANIZATION

(Special Correspondence The Asheville Citizen)

CHARLOTTE, March 26.—Baptists in Elizabeth Heights, Myers park and Piedmont park, today organized a new Baptist church, the building to be on Hawthorne Lane. It will be known as St. John's Baptist church. Trustees elected were J. A. Durham, Loyd C. Withers, V. J. Guthrey and J. P. Hackney.

John L. Dabbs was elected superintendent of Sunday school. The church starts with membership of 300 or more.

TRAINS DISCONTINUED IN MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY

VICKSBURG, Miss., March 26.—With a steady rainfall last night and scattered showers throughout the day the flood situation in this district became worse today. The gauge in the Mississippi river tonight was slightly over 44 feet, a rise of approximately one-half a foot during the past 24 hours.

Officers of the third river district are making constant inspection of the levees and guards have been placed on duty day and night.

Trains on the Kelso branch of the Yazoo nad Mississippi Valley railroad were discontinued today on account of high water near Silver Creek

FIRE AT MERIDIAN BASEBALL PARK

MERIDIAN, Miss., March 26.—The grandstand and bleachers of the Mississippi-Alabama fair grounds, where the games of the Cotton States Baseball league will be played this year, were destroyed by fire today. Club officials announce they will be rebuilt before the opening of the season. Temporary stands will be erected, it was said, for the exhibition game to be played next Thursday between the New York Giants and Memphis Southern team, and another game on Friday between the Chicago White Sox and Meridian.