

For Asheville and vicinity: Prob. ably local showers; little change in temperature. Highest temperature 75; lowest 55.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

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

ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 24, 1922.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

PEACOCK SWIM STATE SHOULD NOT BASKING HEADWAY

Forwarding March of Government Not Slackened by Alarmists.

FIGHT AGAINST POU STAGED BY ANTIS

Few Taxes Exist Today Not Voted for Local Betterments.

Raleigh, May 23.—Men of public interests coming to Raleigh to report to the trustees of the state's greatest fight between "anti-taxers" and "pro-taxers" make war on the apostles of advancement.

Each one of the 100 counties has its organized campaign against the school and the highway tax. The seat in the public councils of the state or endeavoring to wield an influence in the election of aspirants. In most of the counties the fight has thus far been ineffective, and the next general assembly is not expected to suffer through the activity of the reactionary.

In 12-months' building campaign in practically every county has brought the added figures on the tax slips and this, it is believed, has been chiefly responsible for the school and highway tax-building campaign. Then the state put on its program, and while it has not called upon the pocketbook of the individual for any increased allowances, the job it has undertaken looks so big as to make it seem impossible to push it over without calling heavily upon the average citizen.

In so far as the state is concerned, administration leaders long ago mapped out their program for carrying on improvement work, and the citizen is not suffering one whit even though the educational and charitable institutions' extension and increased appropriations for deserving work of the state are being rushed to completion.

The only ad valorem tax—the kind of tax that reaches the small home-owner levied in North Carolina except for the authority of local law cannot exceed 15 cents on the hundred dollars for general county purposes and the tax levied for school purposes. In 70 counties of the state not enough ad valorem tax is levied to run the school and the highway except the state aid to enable them to give the people the constitutional term of school. Which shows that the complaint about taxation is confined exclusively to local special taxes.

RATES AND SCALES ARE CLOSELY RELATED

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Administration intervention into railroad rate problems, as instanced recently in President Harding's dinner conference with carriers' executives, has disclosed the close relationship between these two general scale suggested would mean many and sharp reductions—some of them as much as 30 per cent, in the case of the N. C. & St. L.

Railroad executives were told by the President and Secretary Hoover at the Saturday night conference that if they would leave class rates practically unchanged at existing levels, they could go into session with the interstate commerce commission and at once.

The activity of the "anti-taxers" has been interesting, despite the apparent retreat they now are making before the progressives. Heriot Clarkson, of Charlotte, who is as much of a philosopher as he is a lawyer or churchman, is making a study of the situation with him the other day the designation of "Sanbatists" for the "anti-taxers." He finds a Bible illustration for all modern day developments, and when the fight against continued progress came up he found Sanbat warning against the war of attrition in the Old Testament days just as the "anti-taxers" now are.

Witness Declares Men Fought Private Armies of Coal Firms.

CHARLESTOWN, W. Va., May 23.—(By the Associated Press.)—Question and answer, comment and retort cracked across the two feet that separated witnesses and cross-examiners during the closing hours of the court session at the treason trial of William Blizzard today.

David Fowler, Scranton member of the Pennsylvania legislature, and international representative of the United Mine Workers of America in the witness chair leaning forward alert to every word and cross-examiner during the closing hours of the court session at the treason trial of William Blizzard today.

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DECLARATION IS MADE OF BOTH INTERSTATE AND INTRASTATE RATES.

Atlanta, Ga., May 23.—There is a growing need for a uniform mileage scale in the establishment of freight rates, both interstate and intrastate, the trustees of the Barham, general freight agent of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railroad, declared today at the southern class rate investigation being held here by Joseph B. Eastman, of the interstate commerce commission.

BARHAM IS HEARD BY COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Barham, whose testimony took up all of today's session and may last several days, also proposed a plan to make Atlanta a pivotal point in gauging the rates between the south.

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"Ordinarily in making class rates distance controls only in a limited way," the witness said. "This is because the effect of distance is modified by other elements; for instance, competition from the standpoint of debarring the competition of one jobbing center with another."

GOODS ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF MERCHANTS BODY

Lauch Movement for 1930 Population of 75,000 in Asheville.

Election of John A. Goode as president, adoption of a program of suggestions for the ensuing year and launching of a movement for a city of 75,000 population by 1930, were the outstanding features of the annual all-members meeting of the Merchants' association, held last night in the rooms of the association on Broadway.

It was announced in The Citizen-Sunday, May 14, that Mr. Goode had been nominated as president of the organization to succeed Holmes Byson.

Other officers elected at the meeting last night were: F. O. C. Fletcher, vice-president; Miss Anna Garrity, secretary; and Curtis Byrum, treasurer. Curtis Byrum reported for the nominating committee, whose action was adopted. John W. Neely offered a motion that the election of the officers nominated be instructed to accept the vote. The motion was passed.

Mr. Eryson, retiring president, has been ill for the past week and attended the meeting last night, and the advice of his physician. He stated that his desire to wish the association God-speed at the starting of a new year in its history, was the prime motive in his being present.

The retiring president made the following statement to the members: "Our association has had a successful year in many respects. This success has been due to the loyalty of the members, for you have stood right by us in everything we undertook, and to the hard work and untiring efforts of the directors and staff. No head of an organization ever had a more true or faithful body of men supporting him than I have had this year. Many times we have differed and rightly we should, for that is the way of help to any organization. A large part of the responsibility of the meeting last night fell to Curtis Byrum."

NEGOTIATIONS SUSPENDED, BUT DELEGATES OPTIMISTIC OF THE OUTCOME.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(By The Associated Press.)—Facing a situation with which they do not care to deal without complete instructions the plenipotentiaries of Chile and Peru have entirely suspended their Washington negotiations to await important decisions of policy understood to be taking shape in South America.

Details of the consideration which have brought the conference to a standstill are kept in closest confidence but there is no disposition in conference circles to minimize the outstanding character of the issues which have been referred to home government officials for advice.

The course taken by the negotiations has led to a revival of speculations among Latin-American diplomats here over the possibility that the United States may come forward with an offer of direct aid in bringing the two delegations together.

For their part, the delegates of the two countries are continuing their outward attitude of optimism and are refusing to concede that the continued delay in conference progress are due to any elements of a crucial nature. On both sides confidence in a final agreement was reiterated tonight.

YEAH, IT'S AHARD LIFE!

By BILLY BORNE



PLAN BROADER AGRICULTURAL WORK IN STATE

Morrison Issues Call For Annual Meeting of Joint Committee

Raleigh, May 23.—Plans for the extension of the state department of agriculture's program are expected to constitute the chief topic of discussion at the annual meeting of the joint committee for agricultural work next Friday.

The committee will hear reports on the progress of the work during the past year and also these as a basis for a program for future operations. The committee is composed of the following: Governor Morrison, chairman; Dr. W. C. Riddick, Raleigh, president; W. A. Graham, Raleigh, commissioner; O. L. Clark, Clarksville, secretary; J. H. Diggs, Rockingham; C. W. Giddens, Greensboro; T. T. Thorne, Rocky Mount; T. McCallum, Red Springs; R. L. Woodard, Pamlico; C. C. Wright, Hunting Creek; Dr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh; Dr. J. E. Foust, Greensboro.

CHEST BUDGET TO BE RAISED FOR EMERGENCY FUND

Total of \$53,192.04 Paid on Subscriptions of \$83,385.71

The budget for the next Community Chest drive, to be launched in the fall, will be around \$125,000, in order to include the Young Women's Christian association, Near East Relief and a special emergency fund, it was learned last night following a meeting of the board of governors.

The special emergency fund, it is asserted, will protect against more than one drive in the city. It will provide a fund to take care of any emergency drive that may be deemed necessary, either foreign or local.

With campaign subscriptions of the last drive amounting to \$83,385.71, a total of \$53,192.04 has been paid in and subscriptions for two quarters of the year are yet to be collected. The collectable subscriptions and cash amount to \$35,576.63 and the requirements of the balance of the year will amount to \$22,535, leaving a credit to the emergency fund of \$2,611.85 if all of the subscriptions are collected.

The five civic organizations of the city, from which representatives compose the board of governors are the Merchants' association, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Kiwanis and Civitan clubs.

BLACKMAIL STORY WARD RELATES IS BEING PROBED

It Develops He Swallowed Poison Weeks Ago, Came Near Dying.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., May 23.—Walter S. Ward, wealthy baker's son, who yesterday surrendered himself with the statement that last week he had shot in self defense a young woman, an exciting episode which he charged with blackmailing him, nearly died from poison about six weeks ago. This became known today when Dr. Orville H. Schell stated that he had been summoned to the home of young Ward and found him writing on the floor without empty bottle of poison beside him. "It is my personal opinion that the taking of the poison was accidental," Dr. Schell said. "Mrs. Ward is subject to very severe headaches and it is an easy thing to get medicines mixed in the dark. He had a narrow escape."

Meanwhile, while the authorities spent the day checking up in detail the story told by Ward of a running fight with three alleged blackmailers with whom he had held a rendezvous, the nature of the hold which they had upon him—and which was alleged to have cost him a \$30,000 payment, remained secret.

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PRESBYTERIANS CONSIDER TREAT FOR NEXT SESSION

Vote to Retain Membership in Federal Council of Churches.

NORTHERN BRANCH FAVORING UNION

Censorship of Movies Is Sought by Committee at Des Moines.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 23.—The Southern Presbyterian general assembly today voted to retain membership in the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, but adopted a resolution by which it withdraws all financial support from the council. Last year the council was given \$5,000 by the southern church.

Mr. Southern assembly today received a second communication from the Northern Presbyterian assembly in session at Des Moines regarding the closer relations action taken by the southern body last Saturday and reaffirming the willingness of the northern organization to take any steps in the direction of actual union of Presbyterian and reformed churches.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 23.—The action of the assembly in retaining membership in the council came through the adoption of part of the report of the standing committee on foreign correspondence, but a substitute recommendation was adopted in the matter of withdrawing financial support.

The assembly voted also to remain a member of the general council of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches of America. In the adoption of the report of the standing committee on publication and Sabbath school work, one item included the re-election for a period of three years of R. E. Magill, of Richmond, Va., as secretary and treasurer of the general council of the publication and Sabbath school work position he has filled for the last two years. Lively discussion took place in connection with the adoption of the report by which membership in the council was retained.

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MORE BUCKETING DISCLOSURES IN EXCHANGE TRIAL

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WITNESSES WHILE BLIZZARD TRIAL NEARS END

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