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## MINE DISASTER IN AVERY FIRST IN OLD NORTH STATE

The first serious mine accident in North Carolina during many years was that recently occurring at the Cranberry mines in the new county of Avery. It resulted in the instant and horrible death of L. C. Tolley and the injury of Penn Tolley, with whom he was working.

Commissioner of Labor M. L. Shipman, who is also State Mine Inspector, has just completed a thorough investigation of the accident and its causes and, also of the mine itself. Mr. Shipman, on his return from Cranberry to Raleigh, spent Sunday here. He talked interestingly of the North Carolina industry of iron ore mining.

Mr. Shipman said: "Upon receiving notice of any death resulting from accident it is the duty of the mine inspector, whose duties are performed by the Commissioner of Labor and Printing, to go at once upon receiving notice to the mine in which the accident occurred and make out an official report fully setting forth the condition of the mine where the death occurred and the cause which led to the same."

"I made a personal investigation of the mines and especially that part of the same where Tolley met his death, and it was a new experience for me to assure you. I also conducted a searching inquiry into the causes of the accident and have with me the sworn statements of witnesses, the county coroner, the mine physician, mine superintendent and others."

"Briefly, the facts in the case are these: They will be of interest as relating to the first serious mining accident in North Carolina during a number of years. There were four drill runners in the heading working two drills on the afternoon of the explosion; Arthur King and H. S. Holley running one drill, Penn Trolley and Cain Trolley running the other. Only L. C. Trolley and Penn Trolley were in the heading when the accident occurred. The other two had just left, one to bring water, the other going to the blacksmith shop."

"The miners are paid fourteen cents a foot for drilling holes. These men sought to take advantage of a five or six foot hole already drilled in which there was powder that for some reason had failed to explode when the hole was fired by the preceding shift. This powder was exploded by the detonations of the drill operated by the Tolleys. The top of L. C. Tolley's head was completely blown off by some blunt instrument. The other man was slightly injured."

"While, of course, all mining operations are hazardous, I consider the Cranberry mines as being reasonably safe. The headings, or tunnels, seemed to be well braced and the company appear to be interested in protecting the miners."

"General R. F. Hoke, of Raleigh, was formerly president of the company, now owned by Philadelphia capitalists. The mine, situated at the terminus of the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad, owned by the same company, has been operated for more than thirty years, but much more extensively of late. Its output of a peculiar, high-grade ore is immense, an average of about three hundred men being constantly employed. The company also owns and operates a smelting plant in Johnson City, Tenn. To reach the Cranberry mines by rail it was necessary for me to go via Johnson City, Tennessee."

Mr. Shipman was asked to describe his experience far underground, in the very bowels of the earth, making a personal inspection of the place where poor Tolley met his fate. The genial Commissioner of Labor laughed and said he couldn't do it.

"But I sure am glad I donned the overalls and colored shirt they gave me at the mouth of the mine before descending into that black hole. I saved a suit of clothes by doing so, for when I returned I was a dark and mysterious looking specimen of humanity. The entrance into a number of the tunnels is very steep. In fact its almost like shooting the chutes, if you know what that is. The descent is long and precipitous, and the spot of light above your head gradually becomes smaller and smaller until you enter one of the headings, or tunnels, when it disappears entirely and you are in the densest gloom. The miners light their lamps. They burn a peculiar, non-explosive oil, giving forth the unaccustomed, a strange and uncomfortable odor. There are twenty-one headings or tunnels, in the mine, and to traverse any one of them is much the same as going through a railroad tunnel without an end. The further you get into these headings the more oppressive becomes the air, the more offensive the odor from the miner's oil and the more welcome your recollections of the blue skies and sunshine far above you."

"The weirdly wavering flames of the miners' lamps flicker and dance, revealing dimly surroundings grotesque and unreal. The rough walls of the tunnel draw nearer and nearer, become more and more threatening. Nature, angry at L.C.'s robbery of her treasure house, has already exacted heavy toll and now would entomb victims in a living grave. You feel yourself shrinking and diminishing in a stature and importance until an exceedingly small hole would suffice for you to crawl through if but that hole led to the blessed sunlight above."

"Finally we came to the spot where Tolley met death—far from where death cometh to most men, and fortunately for the poor fellow it came quickly. To die up yonder is enough. To die down there makes one shrink with horror. The end came quickly and mercifully to Tolley, who, if he had made a mistake in drilling into that unexploded charge of powder, paid for it dearly."

Mr. Shipman's report of the accident will be filed in his office as a matter of record and for future reference. As mine inspector, it is his duty to make a record of all examinations of mines, conditions in which found, extent to which the laws relating to mines and mining are observed or violated, progress made in the improvements and security of life and health, number of accidents, injuries or deaths in or about the mines, together with all such other facts and information of public interest concerning the condition of mines, development and progress of mining in the State as he may think useful and proper.

## TO REPRIMAND DR. H. W. WILEY

Washington, July 19.—Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, probably will not be required by President Taft to resign, but will be reprimanded, according to the consensus of opinion of visitors who talked with Mr. Taft yesterday. The recommendation of Attorney General Wickersham that Dr. Wiley be permitted to resign was barely touched upon at the cabinet meeting, but this impression was strengthened in the minds of the callers at the White House during the day.

The president thus far has not read the record in the case, nor has he before him the recommendation of James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, in whose department the trouble arose and who has been directed to pass upon it.

### Bold Burglars Elude Capture.

A bold burglary was perpetrated last Saturday night when the residence of Mrs. J. H. Tinley who lives about two miles out of the city on the Edneyville road, was entered and several articles of value were stolen. The thief, or thieves, gained access through one of the windows which they managed in some way to work loose. They evidently took plenty of time for their nefarious work because everything which might prove of value to them seemed to have undergone a thorough inspection.

Bloodhounds were secured from Asheville in the early part of the afternoon and put upon the trail of the midnight intruders. They followed the trail for some distance but finally lost it. A close, thorough search for the robbers was made but no positive clue has yet been discovered.

### May Secure a 999-Year Lease.

Richmond, Va., July 15.—President Stevens of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway is authority for the statement that, if pending negotiations are concluded, the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Seaboard Air Line will secure a 999-year lease on the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio Railroad.

### Rev. Moncrief Tendered Presidency of Seminary.

Raleigh, July 15.—Rev. J. Moncrief, who has for three years been pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist church of this city, has been tendered the presidency of Union university, of Jackson, Tenn., and now has the matter under consideration. It is announced that he also has received a number of flattering calls recently. He came to Raleigh from Forsyth, Ga., and is a graduate of Mercer college. He has made many strong friends in Raleigh and it is hoped he will see his way clear to remain here.

## PRICES TOPPLE PRES. FINLEY AT KNOXVILLE BULLS SUFFER

New Orleans, July 19.—Yesterday's cotton market was one of the most exciting in many months, with heavy sales and sensational declines in all futures. Private reports from Liverpool early this morning to the effect that the bull leaders were liquidating stirred up selling orders in all parts of the cotton world and futures on the New Orleans exchange opened at a wide decline only to go still lower as trading progressed.

### FINE FISHING AT KANUGA.

Much Success Attending Efforts of the Members of the Kanuga Club at Fishing in the Lake—Fine Sport Being Enjoyed.

Disciples of Isak Walton, particularly such as reside in Charlotte, were delightedly surprised by the item appearing in yesterday's Observer to the effect that the ban on fishing at Kanuga lake had been lifted and that the first day's efforts of the anglers had been rewarded with such splendid success.

The achievement of young Thomas Prescott of Atlanta in landing some of the finest rainbow trout ever seen in that section of the State and the catches of other guests fired the others with zeal, as the following telegram dispatched post haste to Mr. W. H. Twitty here by Mr. John M. Scott, both ardent anglers, will testify:

Kanuga Lake, July 14. Eleven 12-inch rainbow trout caught from the lake in one hour this afternoon. Come tomorrow sure to send me something to fish with by express tomorrow morning train.

(Signed) JOHN M. SCOTT. It goes without saying that ample tackle was forwarded to Mr. Scott and it is the plan of Mr. Twitty, Mr. Walter Brem and several others to join him in person in a day or two. The fish in Kanuga lake were planted there three years ago by Mr. George Stephens, founder of the club. Of course there were some fish there already but 30,000 fine specimens were added. These were secured from the government. No one has ever been allowed to fish in the lake and hence the trout are just reaching that size where they give good sport. It is expected that the fishing feature will be one of the most popular forms of amusements for the Kanugans from this time henceforth. The early spring and the late fall are the best seasons for rainbow-trout fishing.—Charlotte Observer.

## HUFF VANISHES

A party of officers from Asheville passed through last night on their way to Tuxedo where they hope to find further trace of John Huff. They had several bloodhounds in leash which they expected to use to good advantage.

### "A HISTORY OF MURDER"

Heyburn and Williams Renew Quarrel Over Confederacy—Williams Left Chamber.

Washington, July 18.—The bitterness between Senator Heyburn of Idaho and Senator Williams of Mississippi on the subject of the Confederacy broke out anew in the senate. Heyburn objected to taking up a bill appropriating \$100,000 for a Confederate monument in Vicksburg, Mississippi Park, but Williams won its consideration by a vote of 29 to 19.

The Vicksburg park commission and the state military affairs, have approved the measure. Williams said it was desired to have the monument complete for the semi-centennial of the "Blue and the Gray" reunion at Vicksburg in 1913.

Senators Cummins of Iowa and Works of California argued its passage as a proper recognition of the men who exhibited great bravery in the cause they believed to be right. Heyburn again attacked the principle of federal recognition of the Confederate acts. Williams abruptly left the chamber when Heyburn began to speak.

Heyburn declared "it was intolerable" that the deeds of the Confederate armies should be recited in the laws that call upon the public treasury for a contribution. He characterized the history of the war between the states as "a history of murder."

He attacked the newspapers of the country declaring many of them disloyal and "delinquent to express disloyalty."

He said that he was so misrepresented that he was receiving scores of anonymous letters from "cowards" threatening him with personal violence because of his opposition to the use of government funds to recognize confederate service.

Knoxville, July 18.—President Finley, of the Southern Railway Company, was the principal speaker this evening at a meeting of the Directors of the Appalachian Exposition and business men of Knoxville, his subject being "The Development of the Appalachian Region."

He emphasized very strongly the economic strength of the Southeastern section of the United States, growing out of its natural resources and climatic advantages, and expressed the opinion that no locality was more favorably located or better fitted by its natural resources for progressive development than the Southern Appalachian region.

Speaking of the great advantage enjoyed by the south in its supremacy in cotton production, and urged the importance of constantly endeavoring to strengthen this advantage by bringing about the general adoption of methods that will result in the more economical production of cotton by obtaining larger yields per acre and that will enable the Southern cotton planters to keep pace with the ever increasing demand of the world. He did not advocate doing this by growing cotton to the exclusion of other crops, but rather by diversified agriculture and live stock raising as a means of conserving and building up soil fertility. After citing statistics showing the increased yields per acre obtained by Tennessee farmers during the past five years as compared with the ten years from 1876 to 1885, Mr. Finley said:

"This shows that the farmers of Tennessee have learned and are applying scientific methods of soil conservation. The averages for the past five years, including the bad with the good, fall far below the yields of which Tennessee soils are capable and far below the results obtained by the most progressive farmers. For the State as a whole, the average yields per acre are still far below what they ought to be and below what will speedily be attained when the great body of Tennessee farmers have adopted the methods now being practiced by the most progressive. Year by year, more farmers are adopting the best methods and, year by year, larger acres of soils are being benefited by scientific treatment. We may expect that, in individual years, some crops will suffer from adverse weather conditions, but I believe we may safely predict that each successive five-year period will show better results than the preceding five years for a long time to come. The reports of the United States Agricultural Department on the condition of this season's growing crops bear out this prediction. They show the condition of cotton, corn and wheat in Tennessee as better than last year when the average yield per year of each of these crops in this State was in excess of the five-year average."

Speaking of the advantages of the Southeastern States for raising live stock and for the dairy industry, Mr. Finley referred to the accessibility of markets, to the mild winters and long grazing season, to the increasing demand for meat and dairy products and to the fact that, as a result of the cutting up of the Western ranges into farms a larger proportion of the meat supply of the country must be raised in the Southeastern States. He spoke of the cattle as having been, in the past, a handicap to the live stock and dairying industries of some parts of the South; and said:

"The management of the railway company that I have the honor to represent, considers the development of live stock and dairying industries in the Southeastern States of such great importance that we have recently appointed a Live Stock Agent and a Dairy Agent to devote their entire time to working in co-operation with the farmers along our lines for the development of these industries. In co-operation with the State Commission of Agriculture and the United States Agricultural Department, we are endeavoring to eradicate the cattle tick and the best methods of doing it."

Mr. Finley spoke of the splendid advantages of the Southern Appalachian region for a great and varied industrial development, referring to the accessibility of supplies of timber, iron ore, cotton, marbles, building stones, coal, and water powers. He urged the importance of conserving these natural resources through wise use and the elimination of waste. He spoke of the intimate relation existing between agricultural development and industrial development, pointing out that the best market for the farmers, and the increase of their perishable products, is a nearby city or manufacturing town, and that the merchants and manufacturers are vitally interested in the prosperity of the farmer, especially for all of his purchasing power.

Referring to the Appalachian Exposition, to be held during the coming autumn, Mr. Finley said:

"Among the many factors in bringing about a higher degree of agricultural and industrial development, none is more helpful than a great fair or exposition such as the Appalachian Exposition, to be held in your enterprising city during the coming

## REVENUE OFFICERS DESTROY A PROSPEROUS DISTILLERY

### DROWNED ON CAMPING TRIP

Greensboro, July 19.—Cassius J. Finley, Jr., the 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Cassius J. Finley, who are living in Charlotte temporarily, was drowned yesterday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock in Ogburn's pond, 5 miles north of Summerfield, this county. The body was recovered two hours afterward a short distance from where it was seen to go down by three companions who were with him on a camping and fishing trip.

Washington, July 16.—Before the eyes of scores of society men and women well known in official life and almost within a stone's throw of the Chevy Chase club house, J. B. Johnson of New York, recently appointed solicitor of the navy department, was struck by lightning today and killed. Johnson had been playing golf with a companion and was in the open when the bolt struck. His companion and the caddy a dozen yards away were knocked down but were uninjured. Surgeon General Stokes of the navy who was at the club, declared tonight that death probably was instantaneous. The club is one of the best known country clubs south of New York. President Taft, Vice President Sherman, most of the members of the cabinet and many members of the diplomatic corps are members.

The men who are planning for this exposition and upon whom the burden of carrying it through successfully will fall, are performing a public-spirited and patriotic duty of the highest value to Knoxville and to this entire Appalachian region. They deserve, and I am sure that they will receive, the cordial and helpful support of all their fellow citizens. This Exposition, in which will be concentrated samples of all of your best products, will open the eyes of visitors from other parts of the United States to the possibility of this region and to the wonderful variety of opportunities which it affords. However, while it is desirable that you should attract visitors from other sections, I believe that this Exposition will be particularly useful on account of its educational value to your own people. They will see here what the most successful man in each line is accomplishing. They will not only see what he has done, but will learn how he has done it, and the result will be a more general adoption of improved industrial and agricultural methods. In this connection, if I may presume to offer some suggestions to the President and Board of Directors of the Appalachian Exposition, I would urge that special efforts be made to bring together live stock and dairy exhibits that will be in the highest degree educational. I would also recommend that, in addition to a comprehensive display of the resources of this region in their raw state, it is particularly desirable that you should have very complete exhibits of the products of your Appalachian industries, showing what you are doing with your raw materials. It would suggest further that, if it has not already been arranged for, particular attention should be given to the installation at the Exposition of a bureau of information where visitors from other parts of the United States can secure detailed and accurate advice as to the agricultural and industrial opportunities of this region, and especially as to the opportunities for a further diversification of your manufacturing by the location of industries which are not represented here, but for which you can supply the raw materials.

The interests of the Southern Railway Company are inseparably bound up with the interests of the Southeastern States, including this Appalachian region. It is the highway over which a large part of your products are moved to market. It is to our interest that your production of marketable commodities shall constantly increase; it is to your interest that we shall be able to provide adequate facilities for the transportation of all that you can produce. While, as with respect to all business enterprises, we hear complaints here and there as to the service of our Company, it has been in the past, and expects to continue to be, a most important factor in the development of this region. As a great business enterprise, it must be managed in conformity with sound business principles, but it is the aspiration of its management to make it not only an effective carrier of the commerce of the Southeastern States, but a helpful ally in their development, and as such, we stand ready to co-operate with you and the people of all other communities along our lines for the upbuilding of this entire section."

Last night a highly successful raid was made upon an illicit distillery, the result being the destruction of 500 gallons of the same article that made Milwaukee famous some time since, and the placing in jail of one man thought to be connected with the operation of the still.

The raiders, Revenue Officer Ezra Deputy Strop, and Constable Case, left here last night in carriages and drove out about ten miles in the vicinity of Sugar Loaf where the still was supposed to be located. After reconnoitering for some time the officers finally got on the right trail and proceeded to close in on the still.

Advice of rather friendly nature had evidently preceded them, for the still itself as well as the operators had taken to the tall, uncut timber, believing that discretion in such troublous times was the better part of valor. While the still had been removed, the beer, because of its bulkiness, or temporarily forgotten in the mad scramble for safety, had been left as the sole monarch in the receiving line for the officers.

And what a reception! That which had been manufactured to tickle the palate of man and raise him, possibly, to a higher plane of ecstasy, was now being incontinently poured out on the unresponsive earth. The destruction complete, the officers then began to cast about for some of the men who had been so diffident about receiving them. One man was found and placed in jail her last night. Today he was carried to Asheville where he will appear before the U. S. commissioner and answer the charge of distilling.

### THE BLUEMONT CONFERENCE

Bluemont, July 17.—Bluemont conference on education held its third annual session last week. Among those who took part in the program were Prof. J. L. Kesler of Baylor University, Waco, Texas; Rev. A. E. Brown, D. D., superintendent of education for the Southern Baptist Convention; Rev. M. B. Adams, D. D., Frankfort, Ky., corresponding secretary of the Baptist Education Society of Kentucky; Rev. T. B. Bell, D. D., editor of The Christian Index, Atlanta, Ga.; Prof. G. E. Lineberry, Raleigh, educational secretary of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The conference decided to issue a call to the trustees, presidents, professors and students of all the Baptist educational institutions in the South to meet here for a general conference on education on July 16, 1912. Every Monday evening there is held an assembly social in the auditorium; every Saturday evening there is a popular lecture or entertainment in the auditorium; Thursday evenings are left open for private receptions and parties; while Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday are given over to the general work of the assembly.

A reading room has been opened in the administration building with about fifty periodicals, including the leading dailies and a large number of weekly papers and quite a number of magazines. The reading room is open daily from 2 to 7 p. m. and is quite a pleasure to those who are interested in the news of the day.

Several parties have recently been to Mount Mitchell by the new trail from Gaphiteville. The trail has just been cut and starts from Graphiteville, five miles below here. Those who have made the trip report that it is much easier than the old trail by way of Gray Beard and that it is some five or six miles shorter. A house has been built on the top of Mount Mitchell in which parties can camp for the night.

### Warm Politics Down South.

Jackson, Miss., July 16.—With the ushering in of the current week, Mississippi's memorable political campaign, the bitterest and most spirited in the history of the State, reaches the beginning of the end.

The Democratic State executive committee will assemble in the senate chamber at noon Monday to prepare the form of the official ballot and to declare as nominees of the party all candidates for State officers who have no opposition.

No changes have been made in the estimate issued from headquarters of the three senatorial candidates. Former Gov. Vardaman's managers declare he will win in the first primary by a decisive majority. Mr. Vardaman is confident that he will get 90,000 votes.

C. H. Alexander's managers assert that he is certain to get 45,000 votes in the first primary.

Senator Percy's managers published a statement today in which they say he will get a heavy vote in 60 per cent of the voting precincts of the entire state, where canvasses have been made.

A striking illustration of the egotistic partisanship being shown comes in a report from Durant, where the head of a mercantile establishment, such as Vardaman supporter, has posted a notice saying that in the event of Vardaman's election he will give away his stock of groceries.