

FEWER MACHINES REGISTERED IN STATE THIS YEAR

Shortage in Automobiles of 14,000, Compared With Last Year.

EVASION OF THE LAW. State Department Thinks There Are Many Violations of the Law.

BY JULE B. WARREN. Staff Correspondent of The News. Raleigh, Sept. 17.—With 14,000 fewer automobiles registered in North Carolina this year than were registered at the end of the license year, June 30, 1921, the Secretary of State is sending a letter to all judges and solicitors of the State asking them to aid in prosecuting violations of the license law.

License Clerk Joe E. Sawyer expects there will be some possible decrease in the number of automobiles registered this year compared with other years, but the difference this year is too great even when consideration is given the fact that possibly a larger number of junked cars have been replaced by new ones this year.

Ordinarily by this time of the year the total of the previous year has been passed and gains are being made. But this year the license numbers are still 14,000 short of reaching the total of the old ones issued at the expiration of the license year. The department is constantly getting evidence of violations of the automobile license law, but it has no police power and has to depend on the city and county police forces of the State for the enforcement of the law.

The letter to the judges asks that attention be called to the violations of this law in the charges to the grand jury, and ten ways in which the law is being violated are called to the attention of the Superior Court judges. The letter to the solicitors asks that copies of the letters to the judges and asks their assistance in seeing that the law is carried out. Secretary Grimes asks the solicitors to notify the acting justices of the peace in their districts and ask them to aid in prosecuting the violators.

Col. Grimes' letter to the judges follows: LETTER TO JUDGES. "It appears from the number of reports and complaints reaching this office that quite a number of motor vehicle owners in the State are operating without proper licenses.

Under Section 30, Chapter 2, Public Law of 1921, this is now a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine or imprisonment in the discretion of the Court. "I am writing to ask your assistance in getting this matter enforced. It is a matter of your own interest, and it corresponds as nearly as possible with the number plate of the current year.

"5. Operating under a number issued to another person. Licenses are not transferable from one person to another.

"6. Operating under Dealer's numbers. A dealer is issued a license number for \$25.00, and five plates are furnished him, for use only on cars which may have on hand for sale. Many persons, firms and corporations who are not non-dealer dealers are registering as such in order to secure numbers at this price, which they immediately put on their privately operated cars and trucks. There is probably more loss of revenue to the roads of the State on account of this method of evasion of the payment of license fees than from any other source.

"7. Operating several cars under one number. A party who owns two or three cars will secure license for only one of them, and shift the number from one to the other.

"8. Borrowing tags from others, or obtaining in such other ways which correspond to neighborhood use.

"9. Disposing of cars without removing license tags, which in a good many cases has prevented action being taken against a violator of the law by reason of the original owner's being unable to furnish the identity of the person to whom his car was sold.

"10. For the year ending June 30, 1921, there were registered more than 147,000 cars and trucks in the State. All of these which were being operated on July 1, 1921, should have secured new license for the current year except the State, County and Municipally owned cars, which were exempted from registration by the Special Session of 1920.

"The fact that we have registered only 133,000 cars and trucks to date for the current year, would indicate that over ten thousand owners are without license, and we are using every effort to see that these people who are evading the law are apprehended.

"Thanking you for your co-operation (Continued on Page Four.)

NEW HOSTESS TO DIPLOMATS



Mrs. John Jacob Rogers.

Representative Porter of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs, has recently been bereaved of his wife. Through this, Mrs. John Jacob Rogers of Massachusetts, who is the wife of the next ranking member, occupies the role of official hostess of that wing of congress which has special obligations toward the foreign diplomatic corps.

SIX ARE INDICTED IN GEORGIA CASE

True Bills for Murder Returned; One Conviction for Interference.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Sept. 17.—Indictment for murder, rested today against six former employees of the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic Railroad, who were named in a "true bill" returned by the Ben Hill county grand jury after an investigation of the shooting of Engineer W. T. Reed here, while on duty on his locomotive on the night of July 5.

Three of the indicted men, Harvey Booker, Perry Byker, Jr., and Tim Hendricks, were arrested yesterday, while the other three, G. Myrick, J. W. Hornsby and O. C. Fairfield, had previously been taken into custody on murder charges preferred by Reed's widow. Three others also are indicted, charges by the widow, A. K. Hall, Al Smith and A. T. Lisle, were not named in the indictment and have been released from jail. Trial of the six men has been set for the second week in October.

Shortly after the indictments were returned, the jury in the trial of Fairfield, one of the indicted men, on charges of interfering with the employees of the A. B. & A., reached a verdict of guilty and he was sentenced to three months in jail and 12 months on the State farm. Fairfield was first tried of interfering with the employees on this charge.

The other counts in the indictment, for which the jury held that Fairfield was not guilty, related to an alleged conspiracy with others to interfere with the men belonging to the railroad. It was announced late last night that the trial of the six accused men will be held the second week in October. Representatives of the organizations to which the men belong assert that they will fight the case and predicted that it will cost Ben Hill county \$50,000 to try the accused men. Unless the defense objects Solicitor General J. P. Wall said that they would be tried jointly.

The six men arrested on the indictment last night denied that they were doing picket duty on the night that Engineer Reed was shot and indicated they would endeavor to establish an alibi when the cases are called for trial.

The shooting of Engineer Reed can be a climax to a fourth of July celebration and barbecue held inside the A. B. & A. shop grounds. There were a number of prominent local people, including clergymen, in attendance at that event.

Late in the afternoon of the celebration obnoxious signs were said to have been erected at picket posts. These signs were fired upon, it is alleged, by a crew that passed the line that night, but it was the following night, when a different crew was on board a locomotive that the fatal shooting of Engineer Reed occurred. The engineer died in an Atlanta hospital several weeks later.

Several instances of alleged attempts to dynamite trains and alleged tampering of switches, occurring about the same time, caused such strained relations in Fitzgerald that Governor W. H. Hardwick ordered Colonel H. D. Russell and a battalion of Georgia national guardsmen to take charge of the situation. Martial law was in force for three days, when the troops were withdrawn at the suggestion of the commanding officer.

Since then Engineer Joe T. Morris was killed in a wreck of his locomotive near Atlanta, alleged to have been caused by high explosives.

It is not probable that the remainder of the 26 men indicted, including Mayor J. L. Pittman, on charges of "interfering with employees of the A. B. & A. Railroad" will be tried with the grand jury this week on a charge of murder, in connection with the killing of W. T. Reed, engineer, will be tried at the October term. The court today was trying civil cases.

The grand jury is still engaged in investigating the alleged murder of Engineer Reed today and will probably finish its labors this afternoon.

FARMERS GIVEN LIGHT OF WAY AT EXPOSITION

Dr. Clarence Poe is Chief Speaker to Be Heard Saturday.

THOUSANDS ON HAND Friday Night Crowds Touched High Tide in Interest and Size.

With Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of The Progressive Farmer, as chief speaker of the day, the Made-in-Carolinas Exposition Saturday is turned over to the agricultural interests of the county and the State. Thousands of farmers not only from Mecklenburg but from adjoining counties are expected to pass through the turnstiles during the day and to assemble in the open arena at 3 o'clock in the afternoon to hear Dr. Poe. The latter is a favorite in this part of the State and while he has not often visited this particular section, local agricultural leaders accord him the outstanding agricultural figure in the State and one of the most pre-eminent experts in the whole country. Dr. Poe will advise the farmers who hear him of the plans and purposes of the co-operative marketing proposition which is just now one of the biggest movements engaging the interest and attention of farmers of North Carolina and he will also discuss generally the cotton situation from a world-angle.

The Exposition touched its high tide so far in point of interest and in point of attendance on Friday when thousands of farmers gathered to enjoy the program of sight-seeing, the brilliant musical program and addresses scheduled. The speaker of the day was Dr. P. D. Claxton, former United States commissioner in Mexico whose coming was timed with the appearance of thousands of school children and others interested in the educational wellbeing of the city and State. The children turned out shortly after 12 o'clock and the pupils were chaperoned to the exposition grounds where the afternoon was spent. The scenes were vivacious as eager children combed hither and thither admiring the variegated exhibits and buying themselves receiving gifts from both after hours.

In addition to the presence of these thousands of youngsters, in the afternoon, the attendance at night was swelled by the presence of several hundred textile superintendents, overseers and mill officials of other capacities. The scenes were vivacious as the annual meeting of the Southern Textile Association. These delegates had also made their plans to bring their convention to Charlotte at a time when they could kill two birds at one shot and see the textile offerings at the exposition which are outstanding among the exhibits.

THE THROG AT NIGHT

The throng last night eclipsed any night attendance of the week. From the time the sun went down until after nine o'clock, hundreds kept pouring into the building. The audience where they are here attending the semi-annual meeting of the Southern Textile Association, was unable to find seats and the artists seemed to be unusually inspired by the greatness of their audience and the interest and enthusiasm shown in their efforts.

The management of the exposition announced today that the Friday night crowd was the largest on record and that is being asserted by the fact that the ideal of 100,000 visitors within the gates of the hall will have been attained rapidly with each night opening and it is anticipated that Saturday's throng will make another new high record in point of size.

SERVICE HELD FOR AIR HEROES

Memorial Conducted at Brooklyn Navy Yard, Public Participating.

New York, Sept. 17.—Memorial services for the 15 men of the American navy who were held today at the navy yard in Brooklyn.

The bodies of Commander Louis H. Maxfield and his companions in death, reached here yesterday and were interred in the city. The bodies of the other 14 men are awaiting in a temporary chapel the final honors which a sorrowing nation bestows upon its heroes.

Navy officers of Great Britain, France, and Greece, high government officials and representatives of the State and of many cities will be in attendance. For the first time since the war the gates of the navy yard will be thrown open and the general public invited to share in the memorial services.

Rituals for the dead will be read by Catholic and Protestant chaplains. The Secretary of the Navy will deliver an address, then taps, and a volley of rifle fire will close the ceremonies.

Three of the bodies will be taken to Arlington National Cemetery for interment. The body of Commander Henry Coit will be placed on an American ship, taken to sea and deposited to its final rest beneath the Atlantic. The others will be turned over to relatives.

JESSE JOHNSON FREED

Milled, Ga., Sept. 17.—Jesse Johnson, charged with the murder of E. L. Lane, May 27, last, was found not guilty by a jury this morning at 8:30. Both men were farmers. The case went to the jury late yesterday afternoon. Two brothers of Johnson are also under arrest, but will be freed, too, as the solicitor general has stated that he will nolle prosequi the charges against them. They are charged with murder and assault.

POE DISCUSSES ADVANTAGE OF DIRECT SELLING

Distinguished Editor is Leader in State for Co-operative Marketing.

MOVEMENT GROWING. North Carolina is Already Far Ahead of Quota Originally Assigned It.

The co-operative marketing movement, which has been engaging the attention of cotton, tobacco, peanut and other growers of the South for some time and which Aaron Sapiro, California organizing genius for the fruit growers of that state preached here last spring in a notable address, is sweeping over the South irresistibly. Dr. Poe arrived in Charlotte this morning and was met by a special committee composed of President J. L. Davis of the exposition company and other leaders of the South. Walter Clark, Jr., Francis O. Clarkson, Mrs. Latta Johnston, Mrs. Mayme Moore-Sifford, and J. P. Lucas. Dr. Poe was a luncheon guest of exposition officers and newspaper representatives at the Selwyn hotel at 1 o'clock and will deliver the address of the day at the exposition grounds at 3 o'clock.

As evidence of the way the co-operative marketing idea is sweeping over the South, Dr. Poe said the Texas marketing system of that state has employed some of the keenest men in the cotton trade of the southeast to help secure the pledges of cotton growers to the co-operative system. Texas cotton growers to date have pledged more than 600,000 bales. Dr. Poe said, and the co-operative system in North Carolina is already far ahead of the quota originally assigned it.

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President Causes Stir In Congress By His Selections

Naming of Lodge and Underwood for Disarmament Conference Brings on Talk; Underwood Selection Embarrassing to Democrats Who Need Him.

By DAVID LAWRENCE. Staff Correspondent of The News. Copyright, 1921, by News Publishing Co., Washington, Sept. 17.—President Harding's selection of Senators Lodge and Underwood as American commissioners to the disarmament conference in November, has attracted much comment inside both the Democratic and Republican parties than anything else since inauguration day. For it means a complete reorganization of both parties in congress. It is being called the shrewdest political move in years. With one fell swoop, Mr. Harding has embarrassed the Democrats and delighted certain Republicans.

Several Democrats are still hoping Senator Underwood will decline to accept. They feel that nobody in congress is better qualified than Oscar Underwood to lead the fight against the tariff and tax bills framed by the Republicans. By training and experience, Mr. Underwood is fitted to conduct the minority fight. Nobody knows what went on in Mr. Harding's mind when he selected Oscar Underwood from the Democratic strength in congress by picking him for the disarmament conference commission. The Democratic politicians say he must have known Underwood would weaken his opponents. They admit he has a right to do that. On the other hand, President Harding and Senator Underwood are old friends. They were intimate in the senate. Mr. Harding respects and admires the Alabama senator and entirely aside from fitness for the post, Mr. Harding would feel more like bestowing the honor and prestige of an American commissioner to such an important conference on Oscar Underwood than any other Democrat. It is unlikely that Mr. Harding wanted to embarrass the Democrats, though, to be sure, that is the effect of his action.

As for the situation in the senate, the fight against republican tax and tariff measures will have to be led by Senators Hitchcock, Nebraska; Simmons of North Carolina and Harrison of Mississippi.

REPUBLICANS ALSO IN TROUBLE. But if the Democrats are in trouble, it is not a circumstance to what is being said inside the Republican party. The statement is made by some senators that the President is really "getting rid" of Lodge. It is insisted that Republican leadership in the senate has been far from satisfactory to the White House and that a good opportunity to reorganize the Republican leadership was welcomed. Again nobody will ever know what actuated Mr. Harding to appoint Mr. Lodge to the disarmament commission instead of Senator Knox, for instance, who was a former Secretary of State and actually dealt with foreign governments before. Mr. Knox, too, paid particular attention to Far Eastern questions.

But it is pointed out that if the President had felt entire confidence in the Lodge leadership, he would have chosen Senator Knox to represent the Republican party in the senate—the man who has been the guiding force in Republican councils on foreign affairs for the last two years, and Mr. Harding could then have announced that owing to the importance of retaining Senator Lodge in his place as majority leader, it was necessary to choose somebody else and that Senator Knox was eminently qualified for the position. The logic of the situation pointed to Knox rather than Lodge. That's why the gossip about the leadership question has acquired good deal of momentum.

While Mr. Lodge is absorbed in the duties of commissioner to the disarmament conference, Senator James Watson of Indiana will try his hand at the leadership game. But there is no certainty that he will be permanently elected to the post. The Democratic forces, if he makes good he will run things for the president. If he fails, the Administration will be compelled to shift about again. The expectation is that Senator Lodge will be concentrated on the work of the disarmament conference which may last three to six months. That will be a long enough interval for Republican leadership to find itself.

WILL PROBABLY ACCEPT. In all likelihood Senator Underwood will accept the place. He has already been quoted as saying the Democratic and Republican party lines should disappear on international questions. It is pointed out that he "plays ball" with the Republicans on foreign policy. Having the personal confidence and trust of the President and Secretary of State, Mr. Underwood will not be a minority commissioner. He will know all that his colleagues know.

FOOD PRICES ON UPWARD TREND

Increase of 43 Per Cent in Retail Prices During the Month of August.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Retail food prices increased an average of 43 per cent in August as compared with July prices, according to figures made public today by the Department of Labor. The statistics were compiled from reports from 51 cities.

Potatoes increased 24 per cent during the month; eggs 13 per cent; pork chops, cheese and cabbage, 11 per cent; butter, 10 per cent; lard, 3 per cent; sugar, 6 per cent; canned tomatoes, 5 per cent; ham and oranges, 4 per cent; nut margarine, 3 per cent; plain beef, fresh milk, oleomargarine and corn meal, 2 per cent, and bacon, rolled oats, rice, canned corn, canned peas and prunes, 1 per cent. The prices of chuck roast, hens, wheat steers, rib roast, 1 per cent. The price of bananas dropped 5 per cent during the month. Other decreases included leg of lamb, 3 per cent; canned salmon, flour, onions and raisins, 2 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, 1 per cent; and coffee, 1 per cent. Decreased less than one-half of 1 per cent. Prices remained unchanged for evaporated milk, bread, corn flakes, navy beans, baked beans and coffee.

Food prices in Atlanta, Charleston, S. C., Jacksonville, Louisville, Mobile, Richmond and Savannah increased 4 per cent; Birmingham, 3 per cent, and in Memphis, 1 per cent.

MURDER CHARGE WILL BE PUSHED

Arbuckle Arraigned Today on Manslaughter Charge, as Mere Formality.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—Comedian Roscoe Arbuckle was cast today for a new court scene in the tragedy of Virginia Rappe, motion picture actress, who died, according to accusers, of a fatal dose of barbituric acid, in the actor's apartment in a San Francisco hotel and as a result of mistreatment by her host.

Today Arbuckle was to be arraigned in superior court upon an indictment charging manslaughter, returned by the county grand jury. But this arraignment is mere formality, it was said, and District Attorney Matthew Brady was scheduled to ask a continuance of Arbuckle, following a drinking orgy in the actor's apartment in a San Francisco hotel and as a result of mistreatment by her host.

The district attorney had announced the murder charge will be pushed and it will be left up to a jury to decide whether Arbuckle shall be convicted of first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter or turned free by acquittal. There was also one other alternative which was that if the police court at the preliminary examination of Arbuckle failed to hold the comedian to answer to the superior court on charges of murder, the State then would be forced to go to trial with the manslaughter indictment. Acquittal or conviction on the murder charge would mean automatic dismissal of the manslaughter charge for the law holds a man may not be twice placed in jeopardy for one cause.

TWO MEN KILLED IN ROAD WORK AT ELKIN

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sept. 17.—Try Collins, aged 40, and his 15-year-old son, were crushed to death, E. D. Murphy, sustained a broken leg, a mule was killed and a wagon demolished near Elkin, yesterday afternoon, by a cave-in of a large embankment of dirt and rock in the Elkin valley which a force of men were excavating for good road building.

GENERALLY FAIR IS FORECAST FOR WEEK

Washington, Sept. 17.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Monday are: South Atlantic and East Gulf States Generally fair weather except for widely scattered local thundershowers. Normal temperature. There are no indications at this time of a disturbance in the West Indies.

VALERA'S NOTI IMPARTS MORI HOPEFUL VIEW

Believed Crisis is Postponed for the Present at Least.

REPLY IS EXPECTED Prime Minister Will Answer Note Before Consulting the Cabinet.

London, Sept. 17.—(By the Associated Press)—Prime Minister Lloyd-George replying today to the communication of Eamonn de Valera, says that he will receive the Sinn Fein delegates to the proposed conference as representative of an independent and sovereign state would "constitute formal and official recognition of Ireland's severance from the king's dominions."

Mr. Lloyd-George says that so long as Mr. de Valera insists that the Irish delegates should confer with the representatives of an independent and sovereign state a conference is impossible.

Gairloch, Scotland, Sept. 17.—(By the Associated Press)—Prime Minister Lloyd-George received Eamonn de Valera's telegram of yesterday, in which the Irish leader expressed the view that the peace negotiators should meet on terms which would be "except those imposed by the facts as they know them," is considered to have brought about a change in the situation.

It has opened up the possibility that the Prime Minister may reply to the communication before consulting his cabinet colleagues as he had announced his intention of doing before taking any further steps in connection with Irish affairs.

Mr. Lloyd-George passed a good night at his vacation home here, and was very much better this morning. The doctor called to Gairloch yesterday, and he is believed to have been in the hospital since he was discharged from the hospital. The date of his return to London, however, has not yet been fixed. It is expected that the cabinet meeting will be held on Monday, whether it meets on Monday or Tuesday, depends upon the rate of his progress.

RIOT AT BELFAST

Belfast, Sept. 17.—Two boys were wounded during serious disorders in the Vest street district of this city last night. Troops were rushed to the scene and a riot broke out. Several men received a bayonet wound. Several arrests were made in the North Queen street area, near Vest street.

There were bursts of firing at intervals in the troubled district. It was in ferment until 10:30 o'clock. Rain fell during the latter hours, and tended to drive the rioters indoors.

COMMENT HOPEFUL

London, Sept. 17.—Sinn Fein acceptance of membership in the British commonwealth as the basis of negotiation, with Prime Minister Lloyd-George is seen as a different note to the current Irish situation and deadlock in London newspapers, although the prospects regarding the conference are considered improved by Eamonn de Valera's latest note to the Prime Minister. The Daily Chronicle today said such action by the Irish republicans would mean that peace was in sight. The newspaper adding that "until the Sinn Fein does accept, peace is unattainable."

The Irish situation assumes a more hopeful appearance since Mr. de Valera in his telegram yesterday seemed to pass a different note to the Prime Minister. In the opinion of the London Times, this newspaper said patience and good will should solve the immediate principle and it believed Mr. Lloyd-George might well accept the Sinn Fein condition for a conference without conditions, and name the earliest possible day for it.

DOG SAVES MISTRESS FROM BURNING DEATH

Dunn, N. C., Sept. 17.—Joe, a grizzled shepherd dog, has proved himself a hero by saving his mistress from probable death when her dress caught fire.

When Mrs. Martha Wood, who lives on the outskirts of Dunn, attempted to start a fire, from a liquid she supposed to be kerosene, but which was gasoline, an explosion occurred, setting fire to her clothing. She ran screaming to the back porch, under which Joe was snoozing. The dog leaped to the aid of his mistress, tearing off the burning clothing.

GEORGIA INDUSTRY SHOWS BIG INCREASE

Washington, Sept. 17.—Georgia's manufacturing shows an increase of 173.8 per cent in the value of her products in 1919, compared with 1914. The Census Bureau announced today. Their value was \$93,556,000 compared with \$23,271,000, five years previously. Wages and salaries paid showed an increase of 155.4 per cent in the five years, amounting from \$28,326,000 to \$44,932,000. These products were the output of 4,803 factories, an increase of 164, engaging 141,080 persons, an increase of 25,515 persons, or 19 per cent, in the five years.

BOWLEY ASSIGNED TO DUTY AT CAMP BRAGG

Washington, Sept. 17.—The War Department formally announced today assignment of Brigadier General A. J. Bowley to command the 15th field artillery brigade, Camp Bragg, North Carolina. He is now on duty at Camp Jackson, South Carolina, in connection with the salvaging of that post.

CLEARING HOUSE

New York, Sept. 17.—The actual condition of clearing house banks and trust companies for the week shows that they hold \$34,825,249 in excess of legal requirements. This is an increase of \$38,256,310 from last week.

Monday Is South Carolina Day At Carolinians' Exposition

Charlotte and Vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Sunday; little change in temperature. Gentle winds, mostly southwest. North and South Carolina: Generally fair tonight and Sunday, no change in temperature.