

President Barnett Says Reports of Bumper Crop Are Baseless

In Spirited Address at Southern Cotton Growers Conference He Denounced as False Crop Reports - Big Scheme to Finance Crops.

He Also Charged That There is a Conspiracy to Hammer Down the Price - Blackwell Urges Discontinuance of Government Crop Reports.

By Associated Press. Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.-As the result of a conference in Montgomery yesterday afternoon, President G. S. Barnett, of the Farmers' Union, announced today at the Cotton Growers' Convention that a French-English syndicate has guaranteed any amount of money up to \$75,000,000 to finance the South's cotton crop.

Refusing to consider all questions relating to marketing and holding of the cotton crop of the South, which would take time to work out, the Southern cotton growers convention in session in Montgomery, at its morning session today went on record as favoring action only on such business and resolutions as pertain to the marketing and holding of the present 1911 cotton crop, so as to give relief to the farmer at the present time and then take care of the future later.

A resolution reported to the convention from the committee on legislation, aroused a prolonged discussion and heated debate. This resolution provided for the establishment of state and national bonded warehouses, where cotton could be stored and held until receipts issued which would be honored the same as currency, not only in this country, but abroad as well.

It was a good resolution, all admitted, but a majority of the convention thought that such an important matter should receive more consideration and the details worked out in a clearer way. Congressman Henry D. Clayton, of the Alabama district, stated that the resolution was too big a thing to settle right away and asked that it be laid aside temporarily. On a vote of the convention it was laid aside.

Among the most important matters taken up by the convention was the report of the committee on legislation. This committee recommended that a department of statistics be established in each state under direction of the agricultural department and that each Southern state take up with its respective legislature the question of such a department. At certain periods of each year, the figures are to be compiled by each state, and then sent to the department of agriculture, which will publish them, the same as does the government each year.

The government was severely criticized at the committee session this morning for alleged inaccuracies in crop estimates and ginning reports. It was the opinion of the committee that the South no longer should rely on the national government for its crop reports but make them out at home.

Commissioner of Agriculture Watson, of South Carolina, and President Dabbs, of the South Carolina farmers' union, were severe in their arraignment of the United States department of agriculture in gathering cotton statistics.

Commissioner Watson stated that there seemed to be more than 30 openings, all belching smoke and lava.

The gravity of the eruption of Mount Etna is indicated by the abandonment of the railway stations of Molo and Alcantara at the north of the volcano. Alcantara marked the limit of the lava flow in the eruption of 1879. Molo was threatened at that time, but escaped.

Great Suffering for Peasantry. The eruption means great suffering for the peasantry. The slopes of Etna with an area of more than 400 square miles support a population more dense than that of any portion of Italy.

the government has had a statistician in his state for the past ten years, gathering data for the government's crop reports and that during his administration he had never met the gentleman or had never seen him at the state capital nor had any of his 65 agents in the state seen him.

"The whole thing is a farce," he declared with much indignation, "and we should no longer rely on the government for a correct report."

Congressman Henry D. Clayton, of Alabama, stated that the government did a whole lot of things of value which the states could not do, but he too, believed the cotton crop reports were inaccurate. He stated that he knew it to be a fact that men employed in Washington, figured on the cotton and ginning reports who had never been in a field of cotton or who had never seen a boll of cotton in their lives.

"We must go back to home government," shouted Mr. Clayton, "and get our own information."

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.-That the national government be memorialized by the cotton growers' convention now in session here to discontinue issuing all crop and acreage reports was the recommendation made in a paper on "The Science of Marketing Cotton," submitted by N. P. Blackwell, of Dallas, editor of the Cotton and Cotton Oil News, to the convention today.

Mr. Blackwell also recommended that the ginning reports be suppressed if the government cannot secure figures on stocks of cotton in spinners' warehouses at the same time.

"Hold cotton for thirteen cents," was another of Mr. Blackwell's recommendations.

Papers by Charles S. Barnett, of the Farmers' Union, and W. P. G. Harding, president of the First National Bank of Birmingham were on today's program.

President Barnett's Address. President Charles S. Barnett, of the Farmers' Union, in addressing the Southern Cotton Growers' conference today declared that all reports of a bumper cotton crop are absolutely baseless.

He likewise denounced as false any statement to the effect that the Farmers' Union is a combine to hold up civilization, and before he concluded he charged the existence of a conspiracy to hammer down the price of cotton.

Crop Reports False. After a few introductory remarks Mr. Barnett said in part: "I am sure unequivocally that reports, government or otherwise, foreshadowing a large cotton crop this year are absolutely unfounded in fact. I can speak with authority for the machinery employed by the Farmers' Union has ascertained that cotton conditions virtually in every state are different. The crop will not come up to expectations in volume. The man who is looking for a bumper yield is deceiving himself or has been deceived."

"If I correctly interpret the purpose of this meeting, it is to stand between the farmers of Southern states and the loss of several million dollars through unwise marketing of cotton. The Farmers' Union has just concluded its annual convention at Shawnee, Okla., and I am confident that there the representatives of more than two million farmers formed plans that will bring to a close a conspiracy that may exist to secure for less than its real value the staple that is still the South's main dependence."

He invited the co-operation of every man in a movement to bring for cotton what it is worth.

Mission of Farmers' Union. Mr. Barnett then entered into a (Continued on Page Two.)

Ching Pin Kwang Busy. Washington, D. C., Sept. 13.-Admiral Ching Pin Kwang of the Chinese navy faced a strenuous day when he arose this morning. The program included formal exchange of calls between the admiral and acting secretary of State Wilson and acting secretary of the Navy Winthrop and a luncheon at Metropolitan Club, the host being Assistant Secretary Winthrop.

The party planned to leave Washington this afternoon for Beverly, Mass., to be received by President Taft tomorrow. A few days later the admiral and his suite will return to Washington.



PESTERED BY SUITORS.

Mrs. Inex Sprague Stiness, daughter of former Governor Sprague of Rhode Island, who recently divorced her husband and is now being pestered by the unwelcome suits of two titled foreigners, which has caused her to leave Paris for New York, to flee from them. The suitors are Marquis de Villeneuve and Count d'Avonell. Mrs. Stiness, before leaving Paris, declared she is disgusted with husbands. "They are bores. I'd much rather have an aeroplane."

Prominent Doctor Ends His Life

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 13.-Dr. John C. Drennon, a prominent physician of Cannon county and former state senator killed himself at his home in Woodbury early today. Dr. Drennon had early morning professional call to make of which he complained and while his wife was getting him a cup of coffee before starting, she heard a shot and rushing up stairs she found him desperately wounded. He died without speaking. No cause is known for his self-destruction.

NOTED WAR CHIEF WAS EXECUTED.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 13.-Juan Guerrero, noted cupajpas Indian war chief and reputed bandit, was executed in Ensenada, lower California last Friday according to word brought to Los Angeles from the peninsula capital. Guerrero, left Los Angeles for Ensenada, ten days ago against the advice of friends. His visit was said to have been prompted by a promise from the Mexican government to treat with him over the restitution of lands formerly belonging to his tribe. He was arrested as he left the Ensenada wharf.

NOTED BANDIT AGAIN ELUDES HIS PURSUERS.

Cokeville, Wyo., Sept. 13.-For the second time in three months Hugh Whitney, the bandit who with his brother held up a number of depositors in the Cokesville National Bank last Monday and escaped with considerable loot, has run the gauntlet of watchful posses that secured the country and guarded all passes and bridges on the mountain fastnesses of the Jackson Hole country to which he fled last June after he had shot and killed Conductor Kidd on an Oregon Short Line train in Southeastern Idaho while resisting arrest. Whitney's spectacular dash through the posses that were guarding all avenues of escape at that time furnished a typical frontier sensation.

WANTING TO TAKE A STRIKE VOTE.

Chicago, Sept. 13.-Circular letters setting forth the exact situation which confronts the Illinois Central Railroad shoppmen in their threatened strike in support of the system federation and asking for another strike vote were today sent to members of the various unions involved by J. F. McCreary, head of the federation shop committee.

Second Legal Game.

Columbus, Ga., Sept. 13.-Having adjusted their differences as to what players are eligible to take part in the post season series for the South Atlantic League championship, the Columbus and Columbia teams will play their second legal game today. Yesterday's game was declared no contest at a conference last night, and the only game of the series stands as a victory for Columbus. Sitton probably will pitch for Columbus today and Barenkamp for Columbia.

THE WEATHER.

By Associated Press. Washington, D. C., Sept. 13.-Forecast: North and South Carolina: Probably fair tonight and Thursday; cooler tonight; moderate north winds.

CROP ESTIMATE MADE AT COTTON GROWERS' MEET

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.-Estimate of this year's cotton crop, recommended by the committee on statistics, and adopted by the Southern Cotton Growers convention at the morning session Wednesday, is approximately 12,500,000 bales.

This estimate was reached on figures presented to the committee by the call of states, each state being represented by its agriculture commissioner or his authorized assistant, and by figures submitted by President Barnett, of the Farmers' Union.

On the call of states, the estimate arrived at showed only 11,217,000. The estimate as made by the Farmers' Union at Shawnee, Okla., was 11,747,000 bales and revised estimate by President Barnett was 12,052,000 bales. An average was made of these three estimates and a percentage added for increased acreage, improved conditions, etc., and a general estimate of 12,500,000 bales made.

On the call by states, the following figures were submitted: Alabama, 1,100,000 bales; ten per cent less than last year.

Arkansas, 900,000 bales, a slight increase over last year.

Florida, 60,000 bales, slight increase.

Georgia, 1,800,000 bales; 28 per cent deterioration since July 25 last.

Mississippi, 1,200,000 bales, five per cent less than last year.

North Carolina, 650,000, 16 per cent less than last year.

Oklahoma, 600,000, 30 per cent off from last year's crop.

South Carolina, 1,125,000 bales, condition 69; 5 per cent less than last year.

Tennessee, 350,000 bales; 15 per cent increase over last year.

Virginia, estimated crop 16,000.

Texas, estimated 2,950,000 bales; condition 67; crop 3 to 5 per cent less than last year.

California estimated 12,000.

Louisiana, 300,000 bales.

Missouri estimated 60,000 bales.

All other states, estimated crop 4,000 bales.

On Flight From Coast to Coast

New York, Sept. 13.-James J. Ward, started at 9:08 o'clock this morning from Governors Island for his flight from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

He is flying for a prize of \$50,000 offered by William R. Hearst.

Lands at Ashebrook. Ashebrook, N. J., Sept. 13.-Aviator Ward landed here this morning on his coast to coast flight, having mistaken the Lehigh Valley Railroad for the Erie Railroad. The aviator when he found out where he was went into the air again and retraced his course toward Jersey City where he purposed taking up his course along the line of the Erie Railroad for Middletown, N. Y.



JAMES HAZEN HYDE

James Hazen Hyde, he of the artistic temperament, and well known to Americans because of that fact and his recent visit in this country, who is now in London and reported to be about to marry. When asked as to his intentions in that line, he airily waved his fingers in the old Demosthenes style, whispering gently "All such matters are dark secrets."

Attack on Juarez Did Not Materialize

Juarez, Mex., Sept. 13.-An attack on Juarez by a band of 160 liberals, warning of which threw this city into great excitement last night, failed to materialize through the inability of the liberal junta in El Paso to supply arms and ammunition. The band, composed of about thirty Americans, a few Germans and Italians and a hundred or more Mexicans, gathered on the banks of the Rio Grande to receive the arms that had been promised them. They were met by a number of the Junta with three rifles and an old pistol with the information that "this was the best the junta could do."

Disgusted, the "army of invasion" disbanded and according to its leader, an American, the threatened liberal uprising ended with last night's fiasco.

Many residents of Juarez, under the impression that the city was to be attacked, crossed over to El Paso for the night.

Troops were sent in pursuit of the liberals but none could be found.

France Will Submit Reply to Germany

Paris, Sept. 13.-The minister of foreign affairs, M. De Selevs, went to Rambouillet today to submit to President Fallieres the French reply to Germany's counter proposals looking to the morocco dispute.

This reply was agreed upon by the cabinet yesterday after a draft had been submitted to his colleagues by the foreign minister and the situation raised thereby was discussed by the ministers for three hours.

An effort will be made to so conclude the matter that the French note may be forwarded to M. Cambon, the French ambassador at Berlin today or not later than tomorrow, it is understood that as anticipated, the latest French expression emphasizes the necessity of maintaining commercial equality of all in Morocco and insists that France shall have a free hand politically in that country.

Fallieres Sanctions Reply.

Rambouillet, France, Sept. 13.-President Fallieres today gave his formal sanction to the French reply to the latest note from Germany regarding Morocco. Foreign Minister de Selevs, after submitting the document, hastened by motor car to Paris and if the reply can be transcribed in time a courier will leave with it for Berlin tonight. Otherwise the note will go forward in the morning.

Plan Methods for Marketing Rice

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.-With a view of adopting methods of marketing rice similar to those proposed for the cotton growers, Frank Randolph, secretary of the rice association of America arrived in Montgomery today from New Orleans to confer with the factors of the cotton growers' conference in the interest of the southern rice growers' association.

"Of course our plans are different from those of the cotton growers as we market our product through one head," said Mr. Randolph. "The rice crop of this country is approximately six million sacks annually and there is now between a half and two-thirds of this crop marketed through one head. Our ideas are similar; we wish to secure a fair and reasonable price for our product. The association although only 8 months old, has made rapid strides."

CLAIM MAINE HAS GONE WET BY 50.

Portland, Me., Sept. 13.-The Portland Evening Express, a prohibition paper, controlled by the family of the late Ned Dow, this afternoon issued a bulletin stating that Maine had gone "wet" by 500 votes.

Physician May Be Charged With Death Of Myrtle Hawkins

Fowler Plans to Resume Flight

Alta, Cal., Sept. 13.-In no way discouraged by his accident of yesterday, Aviator Robert G. Fowler busied himself today planning the best course to enable him to resume his journey as soon as possible. Fowler's manager, C. F. Grundy, arrived here after midnight.

The special baggage car carrying extra parts for Fowler's machine arrived with Grundy. It is possible to rebuild the machine as the engine is not injured but Fowler believes that the best course is to send to the factory for a machine, complete except for the engine.

Fowler said he had discovered a new danger to aviators in the fact that the strong side wind which he encountered yesterday strained the vertical rudder to such a point that it refused to work. He will strengthen the control of the machine in which he resumes his flight.

Serious Situation From Rioting

London, Sept. 13.-A news dispatch received here today from Tsu-Chau says that the perfect of police there has attempted to communicate with Cheng Tu by messengers but that the latter were unable to get through the lines of rioters who were attacking the city at four points.

The advices add that the Americans and British residents of Cheng Tu who did not leave the city on September 7, still remained in the capital when the dispatch was sent as the governor-general refused to permit them to leave on September 8, owing to their presence of rabble outside the walls.

The French missionaries had decided to remain in the city. The mail service to and from Cheng Tu has been interrupted.

GOVERNOR FOSS DELIVERS ADDRESS.

Springs Lake, N. J., Sept. 13.-Opposition to the "unnecessary intrusion of federal control" was the keynote of the speech today of the governor of Massachusetts before the conference of Governors.

"There is a vague theory," said Governor Foss, "that where the individual power of different states proves insufficient, the federal government comes in. In such matters as wages, compensation, federal power, it was thought, might be invoked to cover the entire country and afford uniform laws. If, however, there is anything hostile to self-government of the state it is the unnecessary intrusion of federal control."

Three more delegates arrived here during the morning. Governor Spray, of Utah; Tener, of Pennsylvania and Crothers, of Maryland, bringing the total to twenty-six.

Airship Bursts.

Berlin, Sept. 13.-During the army manoeuvres today the dirigible balloon "M 3" caught fire and fell near the village of Gross below. The crew saved themselves by jumping. It nearly neared the ground. The airship was almost completely destroyed.

SYSTEM OF LECTURES DECIDED UPON.

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.-A system of lectures for the dissemination of literature for the dissemination of information beneficial to cotton producers was unanimously agreed upon by the convention today in the adoption of a resolution offered by the committee on resolutions.

The resolution declares that the commissioner of agriculture in each state and each state president and each state secretary of the farmers' union shall constitute a committee to employ lecturers and send out literature.

Contributions will be asked to defray the expenses of sending out said lecturers and literature.

Fire Prevention Association to Be Organized

Much interest is being taken in the meeting to be held here tomorrow by field men at which time fire prevention associations for North and South Carolina will be organized. It will be recalled that the committee in charge of the preliminaries has reported in favor of separate organizations for each state and this recommendation will no doubt be ratified.

In the project to organize fire prevention associations the field men have the cooperation of Vice President H. R. Bush of the Dixie who inaugurated an independent movement looking to the formation of an association of this sort but withdrew his individual company proposition when the associated field men took up the matter.

Suicide Theory is Dropped, and It is Now Believed Poison Killed Girl - Body to Be Exhumed And Two Arrests May Follow.

Rewards Offered And Detective Employed - Case Takes a Sensational Turn When it was Reported That Criminal Operation had Caused Death.

GOVERNOR OFFERS REWARD.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 13.-Governor Kitchin has offered a reward by the state of \$500 for the arrest of the unknown murderers of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, at Hendersonville, who is believed to have died from the effects of an illegal operation and subsequent foul play.

Special to The News.

Asheville, Sept. 13.-Popular feeling is at high tension today over the mysterious death of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, of Hendersonville, whose body was found in Lake Ocoola.

A detective was employed yesterday by the family of the girl but it is understood he declined to take the case and another was employed.

The governor has been asked to offer a reward. One will probably be given by the county and a private reward may be raised.

It is practically certain that death did not occur near the lake, but the body was conveyed there afterward.

There is talk of having a new inquest to enforce further evidence but it may not be thought necessary by officers, as the evidence secured can be used at the preliminary hearing, if the arrest is made.

There are suspicions against two men, and one physician and one business man of Hendersonville, one or both of whom may be implicated and their movements are being watched. Developments are expected hourly.

Hal Cooper, of Johnson City, arrived today. The case took a sensational turn when it was reported that death was due to a criminal operation. This fact has not been established as yet, however.

Upon the result of a thorough examination to be made today if the body of Miss Myrtle Hawkins is exhumed as planned yesterday by the coroner, depends, it is said, the liberty of a physician of this city.

It is believed the examination will furnish evidence sufficient to warrant an arrest though just the nature of the evidence Coroner Kirk expects to develop is not known.

The first examination resulted in the statement that chloroform caused the death of the young woman whose body was found floating in Lake Ocoola last Sunday.

By Associated Press. Hendersonville, Sept. 13.-The body of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, the 17 year old girl, at a late hour today had not been exhumed for further examination into her mysterious death. It was said today that a private detective employed by the family to investigate the death of the girl, whose body was found floating in Lake Ocoola last Sunday, had declined later to work on the case.

It is possible one or perhaps two men, now said to be under suspicion, will be arrested, and the authorities decide to make the arrests a second post mortem examination may not be held until the men have their preliminary hearing.

Sensational Disclosures. The veil of mystery that has surrounded the death of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, the 17-year-old girl of Hendersonville, whose body was found on Sunday morning, floating in Lake Ocoola, is rapidly being lifted and as the investigation proceeds the disclosures made are becoming sensational.

The theory of suicide has been entirely discarded; murder seems to have been established, not cold-blooded murder, not premeditated, but none the less murder and the net is fast closing around a prominent young physician of Hendersonville, indeed it is asserted tonight that the coroner will tomorrow order arrests to be made.

To Exhume Body. Miss Hawkins' body is to be exhumed and a second and more searching autopsy is to be made. Mr. Hal Cooper, of Johnson City, Tenn., a prominent business man of that place, to whom Miss Hawkins was betrothed, has urgently requested that the remains be not interred until he arrives, he is expected to reach here tomorrow as the funeral and interment has already taken place. Mr. Cooper is expected to urge a more complete investigation.

Chloroform Caused Death. It has been shown that chloroform (Continued on Page Two.)

The Eruptions of Mount Etna Now Assuming Most Serious Proportions

Catania, Sicily, Sept. 13.-The eruption of Mount Etna is assuming the proportions of a real disaster. The lava stream whose path crosses the railway line circling the volcano, is approaching the railway station to the north and especially threatening the depots at Molo and Alcantara, which were abandoned today.

Squads of laborers work today taking up the railroad tracks and removing all transportable material to places of safety.

At Least 36 Fissures. The entire crest of Mount Etna appears to be in a state of ebullition. An exact count of the number of fissures is impossible because of the smoke which surrounds the whole mountain but