

## Tragedy at Manhattan Asylum Brings Inquiry

Fall Investigation Will Be Made by Eight Agencies, in Effort to Place Blame for Fatal Fire.

### 25 PERSONS IN BUILDING BURNED

Twenty-two were inmates, and other three were Loyal Attendants, Who Fought Blaze Bravely.

New York, Feb. 19. (By the Associated Press)—Eight inquiries were underway today into the tragedy on Ward's island, a little jutting rock in the swirling waters of Hell Gate, where yesterday fire swept a ward of the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane, killing 22 patients and three attendants.

Nineteen bodies had been recovered and removed to the city morgue, but six more remained in the unroofed ruins. These, it was feared, had been cremated.

The blaze was believed to have been started by a terrific blast in Hell Gate, which broke the insulation on electric wiring, causing a short circuit.

The one unit of the 75 on the island that was attacked by the flames, housed the most violently insane—men of homicidal tendency who might at any moment have leaped at the throats of their resisters.

But they did not. A few struggled as gnarled tried to push their way to safety through smoke and flames, but not a single attack upon an attendant was reported. The authorities starting or projecting investigations were the fire marshal, medical examiner Norris, the state architect, the chairman of the state hospital commission, the district attorney's office, the hospital's board of managers, and city detectives, while Brigadier General Burr, in charge of the dredging of Hell Gate, declined to comment on the theory of light detectors that blasting by the dredgers was the original cause of the fire, but said if this theory were advanced seriously he would inaugurate an investigation immediately.

### STATE FAY CAMPAIGN TO BE CONDUCTED SOON

Campaign in North Carolina Will Be Held Early in March.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19.—The agricultural extension service of North Carolina State College and the Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the United States Biological Survey, is planning a state-wide campaign against rats. Nine counties already have been organized to conduct drives during the week March 5-10.

Workers of the extension service estimate there is a loss of five to ten million dollars annually from rat depredations in North Carolina. Replies to circulars sent out by E. R. Roney, of the Farm Engineering Division, show an average loss of five percent in corn kept in storage. This represents a loss of \$3,000,000 when applied to the state's \$60,000,000 corn crop.

"While the loss to corn probably represents the largest single damage, it is only a small percentage of the total damage," stated J. S. Silver, of the United States Biological Survey, who is in Raleigh to assist in the campaign. "Rats destroy all manner of farm produce from the time of planting until final consumption. These pests destroy by pollution ten times as much as they eat."

"Classes in storage on the farm, in transit, in warehouses, in markets and in store all effect the ultimate price to the consumer. Nor does the loss stop with the farm stuffs; all kinds of dry goods, furniture, other household furnishings and miscellaneous merchandise are constantly being destroyed by their incessant gnawing. Floods are caused by their burrowing in embankments; foundations of buildings are weakened by their tunneling, while destructive fires often are caused by them."

To this list of indictments, I also add the more serious one of their menace to the public health. The best means of getting rid of rats is the co-operation, cleaning up and where possible, general cleaning up and where possible, the building up of new buildings and in making repairs," he said.

### Spectacular Fire Strikes Metropolitan

New York, Feb. 18.—New York today was a city of spectacular fires. A unit of the Manhattan state hospital for the insane on Ward's island, was destroyed with a loss of 25 lives.

A million dollars' worth of films were incinerated in a movie studio fire in Harlem.

A woman dropped dead from heart failure at a fire in the Bronx after a fire which had been hurried from a truck which had run into a snow bank while responding to the alarm.

Four men on aerial ladders rescued a woman and her daughter just as they were going to jump from a four-story ledge in their home in Harlem.

Brakeman Killed.

High Point, Feb. 16.—W. A. Vuncannon, brakeman on the local yards of the Southern railway, was killed today when he was caught under a coal car. His body was badly mangled.

## NEW MEMBER OF SUPREME COURT

Associate Justice Edward Sanford Takes Judicial Oath This Morning.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Associate Justice Edward T. Sanford, of Tennessee, took the judicial oath upon the re-convening of the Supreme Court today after three weeks recess. Chief Justice Taft administered the oath immediately after the court met, the new justice wearing his judicial robes, bar and audience stood. He then was conducted to his seat at the extreme left of the Chief Justice, filling the bench for the first time since the present term of the Supreme Court began in October, and thus making likely the early consideration of a number of cases which have been put off, due to the vacancies.

## 195,184,933 POUNDS OF TOBACCO SOLD

In Independent Warehouses in State During the Past Year.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19. (By the Associated Press).—The independent warehouses operating in North Carolina this season have sold 135,184,933 pounds of producers' tobacco at an average of \$27.72 per hundred pounds, according to their reports. The co-operative association had received 56,771,454 pounds by January 1, which accounts for 251,956,387 pounds of the 1922 crop to date.

This announcement was made tonight by Frank Parker, statistician of the United States and North Carolina departments of agriculture.

"Last year, at this date, 228,596,000 pounds had been marketed in this state at \$24.18 per hundred pounds," he continued. "This amount was 91 per cent. of the 1921 crop, and, according to forecasts of the 1922 crop, the 251,956,387 pounds reported on are 82 per cent. of that crop."

"Sales during the past season were reported as follows: August 18,159,580 pounds; September 45,289,946; October 62,328,030; November 36,140,132; December 18,147,152; January 9,263,919. Late reports not included in these amounted to 5,899,000 pounds."

"Last year, the January auction sales showed 10,700,000 pounds compared with the 9,000,000 sold this year during January, when the co-operative association received its share."

The following is a report of receipts in the Bright Leaf belt, furnished the department by the association:

Receipts to January 1, 1923:  
North Carolina—56,771,454 pounds.  
Virginia—39,625,676 pounds.  
South Carolina 15,355,949 pounds.

In 1921, it was stated, receipts in Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia and Ohio were 120,000,000 pounds.

## THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Unchanged to 1-4 of a Point Lower With Near Months Relatively Firm.

New York, Feb. 19.—The cotton market opened unchanged to 1-4 point lower, with near months relatively firmer on continued covering by March shorts for trade buying. It seemed, however, that the advances of late last week had eased the technical position to some extent, and the later months were easier under realizing or selling for reaction which was promoted by lower Liverpool cables than expected, and reports of continued good weather in the South.

Cotton futures opened fairly steady. March 28.40; May 28.75; July 28.30; Oct. 28.82; Dec. 25.50.

## WANT FARM CREDITS BILL TO GET CONSIDERATION

Drive Begun in Congress by Leaders of the Farm Bloc.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—A drive was begun today by leaders of the farm bloc to force immediate consideration of the agricultural credits legislation in the House.

Representative Howell, Republican of Iowa, began the movement by circulating a petition demanding that legislation pending before the banking committee be brought out.

Harris With Carolina Motor Club. (By the Associated Press.)

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 19.—Richard R. Harris has been appointed advertising and publicity manager of the Carolina Motor Club, officials of the organization announced tonight.

Mr. Harris is a graduate of the University of Georgia, where he specialized in advertising and publicity. He will act as manager of the Carolina Motorist, a monthly magazine published by the club and also will have charge of compiling a copyrighted mileage table of Carolina highways, including a historical tour of the two states.

The annual meeting of the club will be held in Maj. according to E. Sternberger, who added that he expects the membership to number 2,500 at that time.

## Mr. and Mrs. Lowe Testify for Defense in Thomas Case

Testimony of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lowe featured Saturday's session of the Thomas trial. The following is the Salisbury Post's story of the trial Saturday.

There was another dramatic moment in Rowan superior court here today during the trial of O. G. (Red) Thomas, Charlotte automobile salesman, charged with the murder of Arthur Allen, Concord master plumber, when Mrs. Robert Lowe, who was in the car the night of the homicide, with tears in her eyes and half choking between sobs, described the incident corroborating Thomas' evidence in detail and maintained innocence of any improper relations ever having existed between her and the defendant.

Mrs. Lowe was assisted to and from the stand by her husband. Her testimony took a little less than an hour.

Mrs. Lowe, nervous and trembling, related her story of the murder. She had left a sick bed in Nashville, Tenn., in order to testify, attorneys for the defense stated. She was visibly weak. She was closely followed by her husband to the stand. Mr. Lowe made a good witness. He stated that he knew of the trips Mrs. Lowe, his wife, had taken with Mr. Thomas and others and stated that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Lowe and himself, were "the best of friends."

In addition to the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, the defense put on a number of character witnesses and several other witnesses, of minor significance, who gave corroborative evidence.

## Orphans in State Need Greater Facilities Now

Present Institutions Are Doing Great Work, But They Are Unable to Care for 6,400 Children Who Need Care and Training.—Features of Some of Orphanages.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19. (By the Associated Press).—In the twenty-five orphanages in North Carolina, 2,540 dependent children are being cared for at present, according to a survey of these particular institutions just completed and made public today by the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. The results, which have been tabulated, give a comprehensive view of how the orphanages are meeting the problem of the dependent child in this state and form a basis of recommendations for improvements.

These figures do not represent half the number of North Carolina dependent children, officials state. Because of lack of room, the orphanages are forced to turn away yearly more children than they can admit. Estimates from reports filed with the department places the total of the state's dependent children at 6,000 "at the very lowest."

A visit to every orphanage recently was made by Miss Mary G. Shotwell, of the Bureau of Child Welfare, a part of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. The administration and work of each was studied and a full report written. To each superintendent, was sent a questionnaire dealing with five phases of institutional management; administration, finances, number of children received and dismissed, education and physical care.

One thousand, five hundred and eighty-one applications were received by the institutions in North Carolina last year, according to the survey, while only 431 children were admitted. "Of the 331 children dismissed from orphanages during this period, 47 were graduated; 155 returned to relatives; 31 placed in homes; 28 secured positions; 21 entered college; 27 ran away; 3 sent to Casswell Training School; 2 died, and 17 were otherwise disposed of (no explanation of their disposition having been made by superintendents)."

Of the 2940 children now in orphanages of the state, 2809 were in school last year, distributed from the first to the eleventh grade. It was found that there is "marked decrease" in the number of children who are in grades higher than the sixth. Six institutions send their children to the public schools in the community in which they are located. Three send their high school pupils to the city schools and two others receive salary from the county for one or more teachers employed in the orphanage school. The number of volumes in the libraries of the orphanages run from fifty in the smallest home up to three thousand in the larger, making a total of 15,059 in all the institutions, with a total of 120 magazines.

Seventeen of the twenty-five institutions require a physical examination of each child upon entrance; four have a physical examination at regular intervals and eight have regular dental examination. Only one orphanage, according to the survey, employs a director of physical education. A total of 18 doctors, 14 dentists and 9 nurses is considered at these meetings. Hence the meetings are giving a vital impetus and real development to our Sunday schools.

## TOWNSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTES

Are Being Held Now in This County.—Every Township to Participate.

The county school officers purpose to hold a Sunday School Institute in each township before April 1. Yesterday afternoon they held an institute at Mt. Olive Church in No. 4 township. Last evening they held an institute in Westford Church in No. 11 township. Last Sunday a week ago they held an institute in Glendon Church in No. 5 township, and two weeks ago in the Harrisburg Church in No. 9 township. The institutes are being well attended by appreciative audiences.

On next Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at Mount Olive Church in No. 6 township, these workers will hold an institute for townships Nos. 6 and 7 jointly. The other townships of the county will hold theirs in the month of March. The organization, the real work, and workings of Sunday schools are being considered at these meetings. Hence the meetings are giving a vital impetus and real development to our Sunday schools.

## LAST CHAPTER GRISSOM TRAGEDY AT GREENSBORO

Druggist Who Was Drowned in Florida Is Buried Sunday.

Greensboro, Feb. 18.—The last chapter in the Grissom tragedy was written here this afternoon, when Hayat A. Grissom, brought back from Florida, after 27 days in the sluggish waters of Thomas Creek, 20 miles north of Jacksonville, was laid to rest in Green Hill cemetery here. The body, accompanied by his faithful friend and business associate, L. W. Jenkins, arrived late yesterday.

From the morning of January 19, when his automobile was found in the creek, where it had plunged off a road, bridgeless, a persistent search was made of the stream and the swamp on either side, lasting 10 days, with a lavish use of dynamite, but the waters refused to disclose their secret until their own time, when on February 14 a farmer, making his semi-annual trip down Thomas Creek on a raft of logs found the body floating on the surface.

Mr. Grissom was on his way back to Greensboro from a short stay in Florida when he ran into the creek.

As a result, it was found that 43 of

## REVENUE BILL MAY BE PRESENTED TO ASSEMBLY TONIGHT

House Finance Committee Working on Bill Now, and It May Be Ready for Presentation by Tonight.

## MILLIKEN BILL UP IN SENATE

Not Known What That House Will Do With It, but Opponents Say It Will Be Defeated on the Floor.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19. (By the Associated Press).—While the House Finance Committee gathered here today for full consideration of the general revenue bill, Senators were preparing to receive the Milliken bill for the regulation of secret orders from the committee which is now considering it.

What the Senate will do to the Milliken bill no Senator will say, but the House members who opposed that legislation express themselves by saying that the bill would not live long once it came to the floor of the Senate. Proponents of the measure, however, were predicting possibly a sharp fight, declaring there was no cause for fear, and they said the bill would pass without further amendment in the form in which it was sent to the upper body.

As finance committee settled to the consideration of the tax measure in the hope of being able to make a favorable report tonight or tomorrow, the sub-committee of the educational group in the House was preparing to conclude its hearing in connection with Dr. E. C. Brooks, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, with a view to being able to report back to the full committee on education at least by the middle of the week, or perhaps sooner. Dr. Brooks, chief framer of the ground work of the educational bill, expressed satisfaction over the proceedings thus far.

The House tonight will take up the Bowie railroad bill under special order, and while the framers expect to meet stiff opposition, Representative Bowie announced that his amendment to limit the amount of appropriation which might be called for, to \$10,000, had dispensed with the objections of many members.

## ROAD BILL FOR CABARRUS

Raleigh, Feb. 19.—Representative John B. Sherrill announced today that he will introduce a road commission bill for Cabarrus County at the night session of the House of Representatives.

## MAY VOTE ON CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT

Resolution Providing for Submission of Question to Voters Favorably Reported.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Advocates of a child labor constitutional amendment won their first stage of their fight today when the Senate Judiciary Committee ordered a favorable report on a committee resolution providing for submission of such an amendment to the states.

Proponents of the resolution, however, declared they would prevent this adoption by the Senate.

There was no record vote by the committee in ordering the resolution reported, which was a composite draft embodying features of more than a score of child labor resolutions which the committee has been fighting over for two weeks.

The committee's child labor amendment would provide:

"That Congress shall have power concurrent with the several states, to limit or prohibit the labor of persons under the age of 18 years."

## Want Forsyth Separate Judicial District

Winston-Salem, Feb. 19.—The Forsyth County Bar Association has adopted and forwarded to the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh, a set of resolutions requesting legislation which would make this county a separate judicial district. The congested condition of the district court calendar was given as one of the chief reasons for the separate district.

## With Our Advertisers.

How they may better serve the people of the community is the constant study of the officers of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company.

A most interesting display of beautiful dining room, bedroom and living room furniture at the Bell & Harris Furniture Store.

## Gave Friend Drink and is Held For His Death

Richmond, Va., Feb. 19.—Roland L. Andrews was being held without bond today while police authorities completed an investigation into the death Saturday night of James A. Newton, who, detectives charged, died after drinking whiskey containing a large quantity of poison. An autopsy will be performed on the body today by Coroner James Whitfield.

According to the authorities, Andrews had admitted that he and E. W.

## NEW SCIENTIFIC WAY TO FIGHT BOLL WEEVIL

Will Be Discussed at Conference to Be Held in Atlanta This Week.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 19.—New ideas in scientific destruction of the boll weevil, as well as definite plans for concerted action by all the interests involved in the American cotton industry, are expected to result from the National Cotton Conference which will meet in Atlanta on Tuesday and Wednesday, for which a large attendance is expected.

The possibility of using poison gas in destroying the weevil will be discussed by D. B. Bradner, chief chemist of the Government Chemical Warfare Service and expert in the use of X-rays as a sterilizing agent in preventing propagation of the insects will be described by Dr. M. Chas. I. Pain, one of the nation's foremost electrical scientists and a member of the faculty of Columbia University of New York. Other distinguished scientists who will speak at the conference are Hudson Maxim, who will discuss the importance of scientific coordination of effort in the warfare upon the weevil, and Dr. Warren H. Hutcheson, for many years chief engineer for Thomas A. Edison and now managing director of the National Campaign for Boll Weevil Control.

The Atlanta conference will be unique in that it will assemble in this city the men who have done pioneer work in the search for a toll weevil destruction agent and many leaders in the various branches of the cotton industry who are anxious to find more effective means of combating this menace to the cotton industry.

The federal Department of Agriculture will be represented at the conference by Dr. L. O. Howard, chief entomologist; Dr. W. D. Hunter, in charge of Southern field crop investigations, and Dr. B. R. Coad, head of the government laboratory at Tullahoma, La., who developed the use of calcium arsenate as a weevil poison. The cotton manufacturing interests will be represented on the program by C. E. Hutchison, of Mt. Holly, N. C., president of the American Cotton Manufacturers Association, and Robert C. Amory, of Boston, president of the National Cotton Manufacturers Association.

Ex-Governor R. I. Manning, of South Carolina, will represent the cotton planters and George W. Shutt of New York, president of the New York Cotton Exchange will speak as the representative of the dealers in cotton. The national aspects of the boll weevil problem will be presented by former Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, and Senator N. B. Dixon, of South Carolina.

Other speakers listed on the conference program are J. S. Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton Association; J. J. Brown, Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture; David R. Coker, of Harrisville, S. C.; Howard W. Ambruster and Bradley Stoneman, of New York, internationally recognized engineer who will discuss the calcium arsenate shortage; George D. Smith, Associate Entomologist of the Florida State Plant Board, who developed the "Florida Method" of fighting the boll weevil; Eugene R. Black, president of the Atlanta Trust Company, and Frank H. Barrett, prominent cotton factor of Augusta, Ga.

The conference will convene Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock in the Atlanta Baptist Tabernacle, which has a seating capacity of more than three thousand. The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and the Atlanta Convention Bureau will cooperate in the entertainment of the large number of delegates who are expected to be present.

"The amount of the quota will provide for the fifty-four little children assigned to the county's sacred care and who are being built into the new Armenian nation by the American people through the Near East relief. North Carolina is taking care of 3,334 of these tots and for this reason raises \$200,000 annually. Josephus Daniels is Honorary State Chairman and Col. George H. Bellamy of Wilmington is State chairman for this work.

The children are the paramount consideration of the Near East relief. However, all funds raised over the county's quota, or over the state's quota this year, will be used to help feed the refugees from the Smyrna disaster.

## CHARGES LAWYERS ARE CONTROLLING CONGRESS

Chairman Johnson Says Members of Bar in New York City Have Great Influence.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Charges that a clique of lawyers of New York City buy and sell the influence of Senators and Representatives without their knowledge was made today before the House rules committee by Chairman Johnson, of the House immigration committee.

"There is in New York City," said Mr. Johnson, "a place absolutely known as the den of forty thieves, a building full of lawyers who make a living representing to persons that for a stated sum they can obtain the influence of members of Congress."

"I know of one case where friends of an immigrant were told that for \$1,000 the influence of a certain member of the House could be had to get the immigrant into the country under bond. I know that the member of the House has not the knowledge of this matter. These lawyers got the money and got the man in under bond without ever going near the representatives could obtain."

"Why hasn't that case been prosecuted?" asked Chairman Campbell.

"It will be prosecuted," replied Mr. Johnson, "just as soon as possible."

"It should have been prosecuted without delay," declared Mr. Campbell.

## FORD PROPOSAL FIGHT IS AGAIN RENEWED

Effort is Being Made to Get Action on Proposal at Present Session of Congress.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The fight for action by the House at this session of Congress on Henry Ford's offer for Muscle Shoals was renewed today before the rules committee with Chairman Campbell reiterating his opposition on the ground that Mr. Ford had stated he would not accept the proposition contained in the bill reported by the military committee.

Seven Cent Street Car Fare Tomorrow. Beginning on Tuesday, February 20th, the car fare on the street cars in Concord, operated by the North Carolina Public Service Company, will be reduced to 7 cents.

## NEAR EAST RELIEF DRIVE IN COUNTY STARTS NEXT WEEK

Rev. J. Frank Armstrong, Local Chairman, Says Everything is Now Ready for Campaign Opening.

QUOTA THIS YEAR SAME AS BEFORE

County Will Be Asked to Raise \$3,200.—Chairman Feels Certain Local Quota Will Be Easily Raised.

Cabarrus county's campaign for the Near East Relief will be held from February 25 to March 4 and will start next Sunday with speakers who have been through the horrors of Turkish misrule over Christians in the Near East addressing local churchgoers, it was announced today by Rev. J. Frank Armstrong, county chairman.

Recent events in Asia Minor, and particularly the horrible massacre at Smyrna, have awakened renewed interest in the sense of this great humanitarian organization which has saved over a million people from death by starvation in the last four years. It has caused the people of America to realize that these unfortunate Christian martyrs are not beggars who are allowing America to feed them, but loyal Christian people whose every move to rehabilitate themselves is frustrated by their stronger Mohammedan foe.

Mr. Armstrong is issuing an urgent appeal for funds this week. These should be handed to him or to Mr. L. D. Coltrane, treasurer. He has the active support of practically every minister in the county. He points out that for every \$5 sent in, the life of one orphan of a Christian martyr or Armenian war hero will be saved for a month, so efficient is the work of the Near East Relief.

Cabarrus county's quota is \$3,240, the same as last year in spite of the tremendously increased need as the result of over 800,000 people being driven from their homes as a result of the massacre at Smyrna. These people are now in Thrace, destitute and without food or clothing, except what the Near East Relief is able to provide.

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## CHARACTER WITNESSES AT THOMAS TRIAL

Seventeen Introduced During Day.—Trial Will Continue All Week.

Salisbury, Feb. 19.—Seventeen witnesses, most of whom testified to the character of the defendant, followed each other in rapid succession on the stand at the opening of the fifth day of the trial of O. G. Thomas, here today. The Charlotte automobile salesman, who is charged with the murder of Arthur J. Allen, a master plumber, was not expected to know his fate until the latter part of the week, as the state is understood to have much rebuttal testimony.

Proponents of Shipping Bill Lost Point

Washington, Feb. 10.—Proponents of the administration shipping bill lost a strategic battle today, the Senate voting 44 to 42 not to table a measure by Senator Ladd, republican, of North Dakota, to lay aside the shipping legislation and take up the filled milk bill.

## British Give French Railway Line

Cologne, Feb. 19. (By the Associated Press).—The British today turned over a six-kilometer strip on the west end of their zone, so as to give the French and Belgians complete control of the double track railroad line from Dusseldorf, a short strip of which ran through the British area.

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