

PROTECTION FOES MARCHED ON WASHINGTON TODAY

First Organ- Congress During

CHANGES IN DRY LAW

Persons Were Pres- hen Arguments

April 5.—(P)—The op- tion again marched

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April 2.—(P)—The day today won another

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FREIGHT RATES ON LUMBER AND OTHER PRODUCTS STUDIED

States of the South Want "Proper Level" for Rates on Lumber and Other Products of This Section

MAXWELL PRESENT FOR THE HEARING

Is Representing North Carolina Before Commissioner M'Leay—Hearing Very Important.

Atlanta, Ga., April 2.—(P)—General investigation of rates as published by Southern carriers on lumber and other Southern products began here today before Examiner M'Leay of the Interstate Commerce Commission, cooperating with the public service commissions of Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina.

Hearings characterized by Commissioner Perry of the Georgia commission as among the most important rate cases of recent years, are to determine the "proper level of rates to be applied" in the Southern territory.

Commissioner O. R. Bennett, of the Georgia commission, Commissioner Frank Moran of the Atlanta commission, and Commissioner A. J. Maxwell, of the North Carolina commission were here to represent their states.

WOMAN SETS FIRE TO CLOTHING IN GARAGE

Mrs. H. L. Clark Probably Fatally Burned at an Early Hour This Morning.

Mrs. H. L. Clark was probably fatally burned early this morning in a garage at her home when she ignited her clothing after her mind became suddenly deranged. At noon it was reported that she was critically ill and little hope is entertained for her recovery.

Mrs. Clark arose shortly before 5 o'clock and is quoted as telling members of her family she was going into the kitchen to prepare breakfast. Instead of pouring the kerosene on the kindling in the stove she poured it on her clothing, it is believed, then went to the garage and lit her clothing, apparently in the belief she was lighting the fire in the stove. When the blaze touched her body, she screamed for help, her cries arousing members of her family who rushed to her assistance.

The fire burned Mrs. Clark's body from her neck to her feet, the kerosene making the blaze spread with speed and intensity. Parts of her body were almost baked by the fire. A physician was summoned at once while every possible medical attention was given her, it was reported at noon that she was sinking gradually.

Mrs. Clark lives on Caldwell street, members of her family being well known in Concord. It is said that she has been ill for several years and this illness is believed to have been responsible for her rash act this morning.

Mrs. Clark is between 60 and 70 years of age.

STATE REPUBLICANS TO MEET NEXT FRIDAY

The Air Is Filled With Charges and Counter Charges.

Durham, April 5.—(P)—With the air filled with charges and counter-charges by various factions, the Republican State convention will convene here next Thursday and the outlook is the session will be a stormy one.

Frank W. Mondell, of Wyoming, former Republican House leader, will deliver the keynote address of the convention while W. G. Bramham, of Durham, state chairman, will preside over the session.

The convention is expected to adopt a platform and probably set forward a number of candidates for office. It is expected in view of his announcement sometime ago, that the resignation of Mr. Bramham will be presented to the convention and a new chairman will have to be named. On the eve of the convention, however, it appeared doubtful whether Mr. Bramham would resign as a very determined fight is being made on his leadership by Marion Butler, for years a "stormy petrel" of the Republican organization.

The Republican convention here will be the opening gun on politics for April. Later in the month at Raleigh the Democratic convention will meet and shortly after that date it is expected the full list of candidates for various offices will be before the public and the campaign which will terminate next fall will definitely get underway.

GRAY IS SENTENCED BY JUDGE SCHENCK TO DIE FOR CRIME

Man Found Guilty of Slaying "Dad" Watkins Sentenced to Die on May the 26th.

APPEAL NOTICE GIVEN IN CASE

Verdict of First Degree Murder Was Returned by Jury in Case Friday Night.

Albemarle, April 3.—(P)—John Gray, convicted slayer of "Dad" Watkins, aged Stanley county man, today was sentenced to die in the electric chair May 26th.

Judge Michael Schenck in passing sentence named the time of execution as between the hours of 6 and 7 a. m. on that day.

Notice of appeal was made by Gray's counsel.

A verdict of guilty of first degree murder was returned late yesterday in Superior Court after a trial that had required but a few hours.

The State rested its case against the man with only one witness testifying, John Fulton, deputy sheriff, who told the jury of overhearing Gray admit the crime to Mrs. Gray while he was in jail.

Only two witnesses were on stand for the defense. The aged mother of the condemned man told of how he had been of peculiar nervous nature as a child.

Watkins' charred body was found in the ruins of a burned barn some time ago shortly after he had disappeared from his home. Three other men, Carl Sweet, Mack Lawrence, and Theodore Lawrence, are under indictment also charged with complicity in the murder, but will not come to trial during the present term of court.

Robbery was held as the motive for the crime.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Barely Steady at Decline of 9 to 13 Points, and Soon Showed More Losses.

New York, April 5.—(P)—The cotton market opened barely steady today at a decline of 9 to 13 points, and soon showed net losses of about 15 to 20 points under liquidation.

The over-holiday report on boll weevil survival came in for comparative little comment.

The Liverpool market will reopen for business tomorrow morning.

Cotton futures opened fairly steady. May 17.75; July 18.25; Oct. 17.63; Dec. 17.81; Jan. 17.24.

32 BURNED TO DEATH IN BLAZE IN EGYPT

4,000 Persons Are Homeless as Result of Fire Which Burned 612 Dwellings.

Cairo, Egypt, April 5.—(P)—Thirty-two persons are dead and 4,000 are homeless from a fire which raged in the Tanta district from Saturday noon until Sunday morning. The fire destroyed 612 dwellings.

The recurrence of village fires is causing concern. The government is sending instructions to all local authorities on preventive measures.

ANOTHER MAN GIVES INFORMATION THAT MAY HELP CHAPMAN

John Farrell Says Man He Knows Is Chapman, Lived For Time on His Farm.

PARDONS BOARD MEETING TODAY

Ordered Chapman to Appear Before It as His Plea For Clemency Is Argued.

Dayton, O., April 5.—(P)—Efforts of Gerald Chapman to escape the noose in the prison at Wethersfield, Conn., tonight may be aided by information furnished today by John Farrell, wealthy farmer of Vandalia, Ohio.

Farrell said that from October 9 to 10, 1924, a man calling himself Mark Smith, and whom he says he can positively identify as Chapman, lived in a cottage on his farm.

The man spent money freely and passed his time in reading and sleeping.

Pardons Board Meets. Wethersfield, Conn., April 5.—(P)—Governor John H. Trumbull called the State board of pardons in order at 10:30 o'clock this morning to pass on the petition of Gerald Chapman for a life sentence instead of being hanged for murder at midnight tonight.

Governor Trumbull asked Warden H. W. K. Scott to produce Gerald Chapman before the board of pardons.

Frederick J. Groehl, Chapman's defense counsel, was on hand with the witnesses and affidavits by which he hoped to obtain commutation.

Chapman was not visibly nervous when he entered the room. He sat beside Mr. Groehl as the latter began his plea for mercy, calling the governor's attention to "reasonable doubts" which he asserted had existed throughout the trial.

Review of Chapman Case. Gerald Chapman had been called a "super-bandit" and a "master mind" of the underworld. Prosecuting attorneys paid tribute to him as "a very clever and very dangerous man. After his \$2,000,000 mail truck hold-up in New York City five years ago, and his subsequent escape from the Atlanta Penitentiary after being wounded, his name became a household word for the most desperate, resourceful bandit of the day.

A legend had grown up around him and until his final arrest in Muncie, he was suspected of every particularly daring robbery or hold-up wherever committed. Stories of his soft voice, his fine clothes, his big automobiles, his luxurious homes, were around Chapman a colorful personality.

Yet this "super-criminal" this great intellect of the underworld, this gentleman crook, this "very clever man" was able to enjoy only five years of freedom in the last nineteen years of his life, since he was first sent to prison at the age of 19. Fourteen years, more than one-third of his life, had he spent behind prison walls. And finally, at the age of 38, his career was ended on the gallows.

Chapman went under numerous aliases and his real name was definitely established. He was a product of the lower East Side of New York and it was there that he began his original career in 1907. He was arrested as a petty thief and sent to the reformatory. Paroled at the end of a year, another year found him again in prison, this time at Auburn. In 1912 he was sent to Sing Sing for 10 years. He remained in prison seven years and it was during this time he obtained a smattering of information and knowledge, which, added to his native cunning, made it impossible upon his release to execute such an ambitious exploit as the big mail robbery. It was in Sing Sing, also, that he made the acquaintance of "Dutch" Anderson, his partner in the mail robbery and subsequent crimes, and who was shot to death by an officer in Port Huron, Mich.

The story of the \$2,000,000 mail truck robbery in lower Broadway has been written up so extensively that it does not need retelling. When the robbers were caught, some eight months after the robbery, Chapman and Anderson were living in style in the Gramercy Park section. It was their carelessness in disposing of part of the stolen securities that led to their capture. Chapman made the first of his daring attempts to escape on the day that he was arraigned for a preliminary hearing. He and Anderson were tried, convicted and sentenced to 25 years each in Atlanta. On March 27, 1923, Chapman and a former named Frank Gray escaped from the prison hospital, but were caught a few days later near Athens, Ga., after a pistol battle in which Chapman was wounded. He made his successful escape from a hospital in Athens on April 4. Anderson escaped several months later. A nation-wide hunt for Chapman began, but it was not until January 18, 1925, that he was finally caught, at Muncie, Ind.

He was then returned to Hartford, Conn., to stand trial for a crime committed during the interval between his escape from Atlanta and his capture at Muncie. This was

Lashed



Five men kidnaped D. M. Haley, 19, of Fort Worth, Tex., took him out in the country and gave him 40 lashes with a whip. He was secreted by married last summer. After the marriage he and his wife separated, and his wife recently died.

BIG INCREASE IN ROAD FUND COLLECTIONS

From the Gasoline and Automobile License Fees.

Raleigh Bureau of the Concord Daily Tribune. Raleigh, April 5.—An increase of more than \$3,000,000 in collections for the highway fund, from the gasoline and automobile license fees during the period from April 1, 1925, to March 31, 1926, as compared with the same period in the previous two years is shown by the report issued yesterday by R. A. Doughton, commissioner of revenue.

Collections during the period ending March 31st last amounted to \$12,100,235.99, as compared with \$9,031,384.52 during the corresponding period in 1924-25.

Expenses charged against both funds show sizeable decreases. Expenses of the highway fund during the 1924-25 period were \$891,154.39, and for 1925-26, \$274,036.20. That means a net decrease of \$1,117,120.10.

Expenses to the theft fund in 1925-26 were \$136,658.27 and in 1924-25, \$101,474.27, or a decrease of \$35,184.00.

The net decrease of expenses from the corresponding period in 1924-25 is \$81,986.20.

Nor are all of the expenditures listed strictly expenses. Some represent improvement of value over a period of time. Addressograph machines, for instance, are listed and account for \$27,673.50 of the theft fund expenditures and \$326.70 of the auto fund, or a total of \$28,000.50.

In 1924-25, \$28,668.12 expenses were represented by automobiles, the Lane State warehouse fund and the garage building fund.

Super Productions at Concord Theatre All This Week.

This will be a week of thrills at the Concord Theatre, as nothing but super productions will be shown there all week.

The manager, Mr. Turner, personally guarantees that this week's program will be the best you have ever seen at any Concord Theatre.

Today and tomorrow there will be shown "Don Q, Son of Zorro," with Douglas Fairbanks. This is a sequel to "Mark of Zorro," and is Doug's latest picture.

On Wednesday, one day only, Milton Sills and Doris Kenyon in "The Unguarded Hour."

Thursday and Friday, John Barrymore, Dolores Costello and George O'Hara in "The Sea Beast," a great sailors epic.

Put \$25,000 on Game of Golf



Archie Andrews (left) wanted to sell his Chicago office building to Fred Bartlett (right) for \$575,000, but Bartlett thought it was worth only \$250,000. They agreed to play a game of golf in Pasadena for the \$25,000. Andrews won.

JOHN GRAY GUILTY OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER

Verdict Returned Against One of Men Accused of Slaying "Dad" Watkins.

Albemarle, April 2.—The jury sitting in the case against John Gray, charged with the murder of "Dad" Watkins on the night of October 30, returned a verdict for murder in the first degree at 5:30 o'clock afternoon, after having deliberated in their room for about one hour. The verdict broke all records in Stanley county within the memory of any living man, this having been the first verdict of murder ever rendered carrying with it the death penalty.

Immediately after the verdict Gray deliberately bit off a chew of tobacco and asked that he be taken back to jail, as though nothing had happened. As the jury filed into the court room he appeared rather nervous, having fumbled with his hands as the verdict had been announced.

He recovered himself very quickly. Judge Schenck immediately adjourned court without passing sentence of death on the defendant. It is understood that he will pass sentence early tomorrow.

The tense moment in court appeared today when the 79-year-old mother of the defendant went on the stand to testify in his behalf. She was so feeble that she had to have assistance in getting to the witness stand, after she had testified as to John's peculiar nervous and sickly disposition in his youth, she turned as she started to leave the witness stand, and looking the defendant squarely in the face said:

"John," its too late to call on man now."

Tears were seen in the eyes of scores of bronzed faced workmen and farmers and a deathlike stillness, a most distressing, pervaded the quiet courtroom.

The cases against the other three defendants will not be tried at this term as the term expires tomorrow and it will be impossible to reach those cases. The judge suggested that a special term of court should be called in order to clear the jail. He thinks it will take at least a week to clear the criminal dock.

LOW INFANT MORTALITY

The State Last Year Had the Lowest in Its History.

Raleigh Bureau of the Concord Daily Tribune. Raleigh, April 5.—North Carolina last year had the lowest infant mortality rate in its history, with a decrease from 54.5 in 1924 to 47.0 in 1925, according to announcement made yesterday by Dr. G. M. Cooper, of the State board of health.

This most gratifying record is due, the doctor believes, to safer milk, thorough greater uniformity of city ordinances over the state demanding pasteurized or grand A milk; more thorough education of mothers on the care of infants and the work of the seventeen county nurses who are scattered over the state, principally in counties which had been troubled previously by high infant mortality rates.

There were 1,484 deaths due to infantile disease during 1924, which gave a rate of 54.5 per 100,000 population. This figure was reduced to 1,324 in 1925, which gave a rate of 47 per 100,000. The decrease is a notable one, especially in view of the fact that the state's population has shown a greater increase than ever before.

Health conditions, in general, over the state have been good since last April, the only outbreaks of any consequence being that of diphtheria last fall and pneumonia and its precursor, influenza, last winter.

DENNIS TALKS MORE ABOUT TARIFF AND THE COMMISSION

The Method of Obtaining Products Costs by Commission Was Attacked by Dennis.

SAYS EXPERTS HURT COUNTRY

They Give Data That Is Gathered in the Wrong Manner and Thus Is Wrong.

Washington, April 5.—(P)—The method of obtaining production costs by the tariff commission in recommending changes in rates was attacked today by Commissioner Dennis, democrat, before the senate investigating committee.

"Figures produced by the tariff experts in the butter investigation would indicate that the farmers of this country were selling butter at less than the cost of production," he said. "There was something wrong with the calculation as it is known that the dairy industry is the best paying branch of farming."

He did not believe staff experts should be sent abroad, and if they were, they should not be permitted to do things that a foreigner in this country would not be allowed to do. "I believe a very great harm is being done our national life," he added "by its considered recommendations on tariff duties, based simply on matched production costs."

"What caused the long delay in submitting the butter report?" asked Commissioner Robinson. "It is another illustration of the inability of the commission to get things done," the witness said. "The statute could be made workable if it were administered by the right kind of men. The trouble is that it is now being interpreted in its strictest legalistic way."

He declares the commission was recommending an average of four changes a year in tariff duties, at a cost of from \$700,000 to \$800,000 a year to the American people.

With Our Advertisers. The big spring drive at Lat. Erzsze-Bek Co. was a wonderful success and the many customers have been more than pleased with the values. They have decided to extend the drive another week. In this paper you will find a list of a few of the specialties they will have for you this week.

Plan your expenditures carefully and then take some shares in series N. 57 of the Cabarrus County B. L. & S. Association. See Gilbert Hendrix at the Concord National Bank. Fishie's will show you a series of low prices on fashions of the hour. Every article is new and up-to-date. You will find at Bell & Harris scores of the most beautiful designs in bedroom furniture.

Do you need a pair of odd trousers? Of course you do. You can get them at J. C. Peuney Co.'s for from \$3.98 to \$5.90. See new ad. for other pants.

Modern Japanese Girl Against Marriage Mode. Tokyo, April 5.—(P)—The modern Japanese girl—a canvass at a girl's high school disclosed—does not favor the present day system under which most of the marriages are "arranged."

In opposition to the prevailing mode fifty-three girls in one school said that to marry men of whom they had no previous knowledge was dangerous. Sixteen were opposed because the present custom ignores the sentiments of the ones to be married. Then objected to the use of a go-between to make arrangements and all agreed that the marriage question should be more seriously considered.

Easter Monday Holiday For Many Charlotte, April 5.—(P)—Although the new Easter-bonnets were not as numerous on the streets of North Carolina cities today as yesterday, a soft tinge of spring still lent an air of pleasantness and Easter Monday found educational, financial and many other institutions closed.

The April meeting of the board of county commissioners is being held at the court house here today. The session began this morning but it was stated at the noon hour that no business of unusual importance had yet been presented to the board. Routine matters only were discussed.

Mostly Cloudy tonight and Tuesday with light showers in the west and north portions; slightly warmer in the south portion tonight, colder Tuesday. Moderate to fresh west shifting to north and northeast winds.

SAT'S BEAR SATS:

