

# Fayetteville To Observe Historic Event Shortly

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL

Fayetteville, Nov. 1.—Lead- ing silence gripped assembled legisla- tors of North Carolina in the beginning of its first session in November, 1789, and for a long moment rugged John Sevier faced a sterner, aristocratic Samuel Johnston in grim silence. Samuel Johnston in his challeng- ing gaze. John Sevier unfolded a smudged piece of paper and laid it before the governor.

"Your Excellency," John Sevier said evenly, "these are my creden- tials as an elected member of this assembly and of the Constitutional Convention."

For a longer moment the two men, the outlawed hero of Kings Moun- tain and the governor of North Carolina who had ordered a price set upon his head, continued to look steadfastly at each other. Members and attendants stirred uneasily in their places. Governor Johnston said nothing at all. It is remembered in the legends of the Cape Fear that a thin smile played fleetingly about the governor's austere lips.

John Sevier spoke again. "I await your pleasure. Your Excellency, I come here representing my people beyond the mountains, to demand for them justice at your hands. For myself I ask nothing. For my devo- tion to the cause of my people be- yond the mountains, I have been declared a traitor to North Carolina. Your agents have hunted me for two years. I am here. I await your pleasure."

Before he was through with this simple speaking, a tumult broke in the crowded upper room of the one building then in North Carolina ade- quate for the State's Capitol. Three minutes before, when the grim stal- wart mountain man strode arrogantly into the assembly, John Sevier was the chief villain of his time. In a moment the hero of Kings Mountain had again become a public hero. Acclaiming tumult swirled around him, but John Sevier stood immobile waiting.

Not before nor since had a Legis- lature in North Carolina witnessed an episode so starkly dramatic. Some- thing, of course, had to be done about it. Two somethings had to be done—something about John Sevier and something at the same time that would save the faces of makers of the law that had branded him a traitor, had set a price on his head, and had specifically omitted him from the general amnesty extended to the inhabitants of the trans-moun- tain country after the abortive es- tablishment of the State of Franklin.

Before evening something was done, a hastily contrived statute, adroitly obscure enough to save the faces of the framers of the law, but inclusive enough to make it possi-

ble for John Sevier to escape a traitor's death and to take his seat as the properly accredited repre- sentative of his county beyond the mountains. North Carolina's legisla- ture had had enough of dramatics for one session, and serious matters were imminent. It couldn't have this swashbuckler out of the mountains stealing the show.

This month, when Fayetteville centers the celebration of the 150th anniversary of that meeting of the Constitutional Convention, the scene of John Sevier's dramatic challenge will be faithfully reenacted on the spot where it happened in November, 1789, in that scene of a spectacular outdoor pageant depicting North Carolina's final ratification of the Federal Constitution, the chartering of the University of North Carolina, and the cession of the territory of Tennessee to the Federal Govern- ment to be erected into a sovereign State.

Governor Prentice Cooper of Ten- nessee, has accepted the invitation of the Governor of North Carolina to witness the ceremonial of the sesqui-centennial, and the flag of the State of Tennessee will have an honored place in the procession of the Thirteen states in a monster pa- rade that will precede the celebra- tion. Tennessee was the first state erected under the Federal constitu- tion, and the only state ceded by North Carolina.

Meeting in that momentous ses- sion in Fayetteville in 1789 the Gen- eral Assembly of North Carolina en- acted these three momentous sta- tutes, but for a generation after- ward to the inhabitants of the Cape Fear valley, the challenge of John Sevier was the dramatic high light of the session, and it is still recorded among the legends of the valley as an au- thentic happening. Actual documen- tary proof of it is meagre, since the law makers were under necessity for saving their faces, and the record is silent beyond the fact that Sevier was seated as a delegate.

But for this dramatic interlude, the legislature, it is very likely, would have deferred again any final action on the claims of the counties west of the Great Smoky Mountains for statehood. The State was re- luctant to part with that territory, as reluctant as it was to subscribe to the Federal Constitution. After Se- vier's dramatic appeal there was no voice raised against the cession of the territory and when his measure was presented, it was approved with- out dissent anywhere.

It was an unsettled time, of course, in the years between the ending of the Revolution and the establish- ment of a stable government, and thousands of men and women had migrated beyond the mountains,

swelling the population of the wild- erness there until it began to think of itself as a state.

Sevier, after the Revolution, had settled permanently in Tennessee, fighting Cherokee Indians, and final- ly, fighting North Carolina after the Watauga Rebellion. North Carolina agreed in Halifax to allow Tennes- see to go its own way and become a state but the enactment was hastily repealed in the following session in Hillsboro. Disorders arose again in the mountains, and finally John Se- vier, in a contemptuous letter writ- ten by Governor Samuel Johnston in July, 1788, was denounced as an out- law and a traitor, and ordered ar- rested and imprisoned.

Later new elections were held for a Convention to be held in Fayette- ville. John Sevier, despite the leg- islative enactment that specifically exempted him alone from amnesty, ran for place as delegate and was elected without a dissenting vote. All that remained for him was to get his credentials approved before he was stood up against a wall and shot, or was hanged from some gibbet. He came to Fayetteville, almost alone—and left it again a public hero, and with statehood for his people.

## WALLER TO COACH BOXING AT STATE

Raleigh, Nov. 1.—Appointment of Edmund (Nig) Waller as supervisory coach of varsity and freshman box- ing at North Carolina was confirm- ed today by the Athletic Council, executive committee, according to an announcement by J. R. ... head of the department of Athletics and Physical Education.

Coach Waller will have Russell Sorrell, 1938 captain of the Pack varsity boxers, and another former college boxer yet to be named as his active aides, it was said.

Both the varsity and Frosh squads will begin training on Monday, No- vember 6, for their intercollegiate campaigns.

## McCouston Mother Has Testimony

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the government in a few years. At the start of the day's session, she took the stand, from which Mc- Couston had testified for two days about alleged communist activities among seamen. At the conclusion of his appearance yesterday, he was taken into custody by Washington police at the request of New Or- leans authorities.

In the latter city, meanwhile, Chief of Detectives John J. Gorsch filed an affidavit in criminal court charging McCouston, former com- munist, with murder in connection with the slaying there in September of another N. M. U. officer, Philip Carey.

Chairman Dies, Democrat, Texas, of the House investigating group, already has announced his intention of going to New Orleans to find out whether police there actually want McCouston. He said he would not permit committee witnesses to be "brow-beaten" or "intimidated."

# Gas Haulers Aroused By Fatal Wrecks

Daily Dispatch Bureau.

Raleigh, Nov. 1.—Transporters of petroleum products in tank trucks have at last waked up to the serious- ness of the problem they face as the result of a series of spectacular accidents which have brought flam- ing death and destruction in their wake.

Five such fatal accidents within a short span of weeks, the last of which left two charred bodies on a roadside near Asheboro and nearly burned to death a preacher and his family sleeping in a nearby dwell- ing, brought this abrupt awakening and there is little doubt that some- thing is going to be done and done immediately.

Yesterday leaders of the trucking industry, representatives of the oil interests and the State Highway Safety Division conferred with Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell for three hours of plain speaking of minds. As a result, another confer- ence has been set for Friday at which it is expected that definite, concrete ideas will be advanced.

Yesterday's meeting was fully co- operative, although spirited, and marked by mingling of no words. The gasoline haulers were plainly warn- ing there is serious danger of their being barred completely from North Carolina's highways unless something is done to mollify a public opinion which is now almost un- animous in demanding action of one sort or another.

The truckers contend, of course, that in proportion to the number of gasoline tanks on the roads and the mileage they travel there are not an excessive number of accidents, but they were informed that this does not change the fact that these acci- dents are so spectacular and cause so much damage to innocent parties that a real crisis has been reached.

There were suggestions that the speed limit of all gasoline carriers be limited to as low as 30 miles an hour—Commissioner Maxwell ap- peared to be on the verge of issuing an order just that drastic—but in the end it was agreed that a program of "self-regulation" should be given a chance, although the com- missioner emphatically pointed out that it is the duty of the State to see that there is real enforcement, and promised that the department will not be lax in doing its duty.

Ronald Hocutt, safety director, pointed out that the organized truck interests have been cooperative in all safety programs and expressed the opinion that something really progressive can be accomplished through joint action of the safety division and the transporters.

The point was stressed by the truckers that much of the trouble is caused by gasoline transporters who own only a tanker or two and who do not select their drivers as carefully nor adopt as rigid safety standards as do the larger concerns. There is little doubt that the at- mosphere was cleared, preliminary to the study and adoption of rules and regulations, drastic and far- reaching in nature, and as ironclad as possible.

Even then, it is admitted, there are bound to be accidents to gasoline car- rying vehicles, just as there are accidents to all forms of transportation on roads, or rails, in the air or on the sea.

Scheduled to meet for Friday's conference with Maxwell and Hocutt are C. S. Schuch of Apex, president of the N. C. Truck Owners Assoc.; Nathan Strause, Henderson; T. R. Reid, Greensboro; J. Y. Ray, Roanoke Rapids; and J. H. Vickers, Char- lotte.

# Colored Fair Is Declared Big Success

Daily Dispatch Bureau.

Robert Hawkins, president and manager of the Vance County Colored Fair, and directors of the fair, said today they "wish again this year to do what is becoming their regular but uncommon duty toward the friends and patrons of the fair for the year 1939—thank them." In a statement summing up the operations last week, Hawkins continued:

"They must repeat themselves, but with increased devotion, that the operation of the fair is purely a com- munity-supported business. To see it hold up and expand itself, within as well as without, is commendation which all must share. The exhib- its were better and the attend- ance larger. It can be said that on Wednesday around 15,000 people were on the grounds.

"In gatherings like this it is to be expected that friction of one kind or another will break out, but not this year. Good order means good people.

"The directors are highly pleased that the parade-spectators saw one this year that made them feel proud.

"They are very grateful for the assistance given through Mayor Powell from the police department. Any and all improvements only in- dicate that the directors take seriously and to heart the responsibilities which such an occasion imposes upon them. They trust that they have carried out the fair in so satisfactory way as to merit the confidence of all again.

"Looking forward for a larger and better one in the year of 1940."

## RELIGION TEACHERS TO MEET NOV. 3-4

Durham, Nov. 1.—The annual meeting of the North Carolina Col- lege Teachers of Religion group will be held at Wake Forest college on November 3-4, according to Dr. Mason Crum, of Duke university, president.

Opening at 3 p. m. on Friday, the first session will be devoted to an address by Dr. Kenneth J. Fore- man of Davidson college; the presi- dential address by Dr. Crum, dis- cussion led by Dr. F. Grover Mor- gan, of Lenoir Rhyne college, and devotions under the direction of W. R. Cullom, of Wake Forest.

In the evening the group will be the dinner guests of Wake Forest college and President D. Kitchin will give an address of welcome. Af- terwards a program will be carried out with Dr. J. M. Gettys, of Queens-Chicoora college; Dr. L. E. Freeman, of Meredith; Dr. David E. Faust, of Catawba college; and Dr. Raymond A. Smith, of Greens- boro college, participating.

On Saturday morning those tak- ing part in the program will include Dr. W. N. Hicks, of N. C. State col- lege; Dr. A. C. Howell, of the Uni- versity of North Carolina; Dr. J. J. Bowden, of Elon college; Dr. Lucy Steele, of Pease college; and Dr. Crum.

## BURLEY GROWERS TO VOTE NOVEMBER 21

College Station, Raleigh, Nov. 1.— A short, but thorough educational campaign to fully acquaint burley tobacco growers with the provisions of the marketing quota plan for 1940 will be conducted in Western North Carolina between now and the date of the referendum, set for November 21, it was announced here today by E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College. The educational program will be inaugurated with a meeting of county AAA commit- teemen, farm agents, and other agri-

cultural leaders from the principal Burley-producing areas to be held at the courthouse in Asheville on Mon- day morning, November 6, at 10 o'clock. Floyd said that committeemen, county agents, representatives of farm organizations, and business and professional leaders will be asked to hold community meetings in every section of the mountain tobacco belt and explain the program to growers.

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50c Gardenia CREAMS, 2 for	51c	25c Mi 31 DENTAL PASTE, 2 for	26c
50c Woodbury's HAIR GLOSS, 2 for	51c	25c Klezno TOOTH BRUSH, 2 for	26c
75c Theatrical Cold CREAM POUND, 2 for	76c	20c ADHESIVE TAPE, 2 for	21c
50c Puretest Milk of Magnesia, 2 for	51c	10c CAMPHOR ICE, 2 for	11c
49c Mi 31 Antiseptic SOLUTION, 2 for	50c	25c Aromatic CASCARA, 2 for	26c
\$1.00 Woodbury's CREAMS, 2 for	\$1.01	35c Stag Brushless SHAVING CREAM, 2 for	36c
50c Woodbury's Almond ROSE CREAM, 2 for	51c	25c Woodbury's CASTILE SOAP, 2 for	26c
75c Jeris HAIR TONIC, 2 for	76c	25c Henri Rocheau SOAP, 2 for	26c
50c Pebecco TOOTH PASTE, 2 for	51c	25c Rexall SHAVING LOTION, 2 for	26c
49c Puretest ASPHRIN 100s, 2 for	50c	50c Assorted COMPACTS, 2 for	51c
\$1.00 Puretest Cod LIVER OIL, 2 for	\$1.01	\$1.00 Assorted COMPACTS, 2 for	\$1.01
\$1.00 AGAREX, 2 for	\$1.01	\$1.00 Lavender Bath POWDER, 2 for	\$1.01
25c Woodbury's DENTAL CREAM, 2 for	26c	50c Jontee FACE POWDER, 2 for	51c
50c Woodbury's After SHAVE LOTION, 2 for	51c	50c Jontee CREAMS, 2 for	51c
25c Glycerine and ROSE WATER, 2 for	26c	50c Gardenia FACE POWDER, 2 for	51c
50c Puretest Rubbing ALCOHOL, 2 for	51c	\$1.00 Woodbury's FACE POWDER, 2 for	\$1.01
49c Riker's MINERAL OIL, 2 for	50c	35c Jasmine CREAMS, 2 for	36c
50c Woodbury's Tar or Castile SHAMPOO, 2 for	51c	25c Klezno SHAVING CREAM, 2 for	26c
25c Puretest ASPHRIN, 2 for	26c	20c Klezno Facial TISSUES, 2 for	21c
		50c Box Christmas CARDS, 2 for	51c

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## Rationing in Britain Will Start Soon

(Continued From Page One)

over personal liberty appeared to be gaining force today, despite an official statement that Nazi propa- gandists were at work in England.

Informed circles forecast a relaxa- tion of the "defense of the realm" regulations after nearly four hours of debate in Parliament caused the government to give ground.

## Flint Moves Down Rugged Norway Coast

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the Russian Arctic port of Murmansk to a haven in Germany.

It was assured in shipping circles that the freighter would continue clinging to Norwegian waters, and then move to Swedish territorial waters until she reaches the Baltic, where the German fleet controls the sea lanes.

## SUSPECT IS ARRESTED IN HARNETT SLAYING

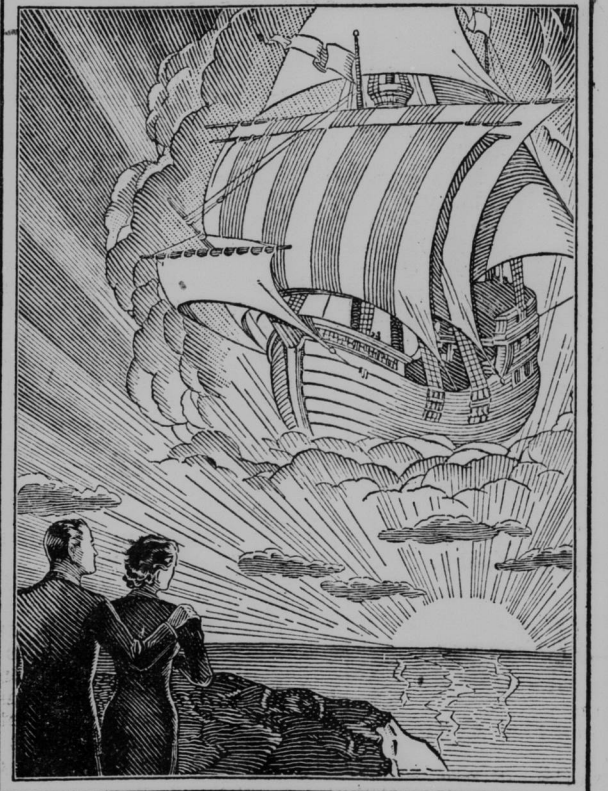
Dunn, Nov. 1.—James Wright, 25 Negro, was arrested by Sampson and Harnett county officers near Dunn yesterday for alleged participation in the robbery-slaying of William Daniels, near Turkey, Sunday.

Wright was chased by Chief of Police G. A. Jackson and Policeman D. W. Smith to the Sampson county line and arrested just across in Min- go township, by Sheriff C. C. Tart and other Sampson county officers who met him there.

Another Negro, also suspected in the murder, was successful in escap- ing. Wright broke loose once, but was quickly caught. He refused to discuss the killing.

The Negroes allegedly robbed the 60-year-old farmer, whose bludge- oned body was found Sunday. They were suspected after they showed up at their home here with a large amount of money. The one who escaped had over \$100, officers said. Several citizens joined officers in the chase and were still looking for the other Negro tonight.

# Are You Waiting For Your Ship To Come In?



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