

# Lincoln County News

ESTABLISHED 1874 LINCOLN, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 8, 1921. 5 Cents Per Copy, \$2.00 Per Year.

## JURORS FOR OCTOBER TERM COURT

Below is the list jurors drawn by the County commissioners for October term of Lincoln County Superior Court which convenes in Lincolnton Monday, October 17th:

Simon B. Schronce, M. A. Putnam, Ed D. Saine, C. L. Clark, J. A. Fisher, J. C. Rudisill, J. L. Hunter, E. S. Cherry, Van Lockman, Ralph B. Cherry, A. J. Bagley, J. L. Dellinger, D. A. Kiser, Daniel Bess, R. A. Deaton, M. Luther Slemmon, L. A. Sifford, J. C. Goodson, Joyce M. Howard, Hosi Carpenter, D. A. Seagle, J. H. Harwell, J. W. Armstrong, D. C. Hager, Guy E. Cline, W. C. Asbury, J. C. Thompson, W. W. Caldwell, P. V. Cobb, J. F. Armstrong, Reuben Ford, Frank L. Seronce, A. C. Lineberger, R. H. Caldwell, David J. Wise, H. H. Ballard.

Second Week.

John M. Reel, R. E. Sorrell, Roy Sherrill, W. T. McIntosh, J. M. Hoover, C. E. Beal, J. L. Gordon, M. H. Cline, B. W. Hager, L. A. Lineberger, W. K. Rogers, John C. Hovis, D. C. Leonard, J. H. Bangie, J. J. Royster, W. B. Faulkner, John Miller L. A. Dellinger.

## DIES AT THROTTLE; FALLS FROM ENGINE

Albany, Ga., Sept. 6.—C. L. Conoly engineer on the Southwestern division of the Central Georgia railway, died while at the throttle of his locomotive and fell from his cab to the ground while the train was running near Blakely, towards Albany, about 11 o'clock this morning. The train was stopped by the fireman and when the body was picked up it was found that death probably had been instantaneous.

## CHARLOTTE BECOMES EXCITED OVER THE JUMP IN COTTON

Charlotte, Sept. 6.—Charlotte was excited today in the advance of nearly \$7 a bale of cotton. Prominent cotton men predicted cotton would be selling higher than during the war. This opinion was not generally shared by other cotton buyers, but the general sentiment was that 20 cent cotton would be a reality before Saturday night and that unless outlook for development turned up 35 cent cotton would rule within the next two weeks. The severe weather of the past two weeks had had marked effect on deterioration on the crop. Ten days ago prospects were for a full crop in Mecklenburg and Lincoln, but now it is estimated the crop will turn out to be less than half of a normal crop.

## GIGANTIC SWINDLE IS UNEARTHED BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S AGENTS

Chicago, Aug. 31.—Millions of dollars of worthless notes, stolen bonds, fraudulent deeds of trust and forged certificates of deposit have been flung on the markets of the country, federal agents declared today after investigating operations of a band alleged to have been headed by Charles W. French and John F. Worthington.

Banks, bond houses, investment security brokers and wealthy business men from coast to coast were declared to have been the victims or dupes of one of the most gigantic swindles ever unearthed by federal agents.

Six million dollars worth of stolen bonds, nearly \$3,000,000 in worthless notes and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of trust deeds and forged certificates of deposit have been traced by department of justice agents, it was said.

The revelations resulted from a confession accredited to Alva W. Harshman, who was declared to have been a private secretary to French and who surrendered today.

## THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY INCREASES SHOP FORCE

Spencer, Sept. 6.—Following close upon the heels of Labor day it is stated that the working force at the Spencer shops was increased today by about 15 per cent. It is understood that all departments were affected and that the proportion of additional workmen applies to all crafts. This makes the third bunch of workers to be called back since the largest cut was made some months ago. Notwithstanding the short force with which the shops have been operating the output has been kept well up to the standard and rolling stock has been kept in good working condition, all of which shows up well for the management.

Hickory, Sept. 6.—With prospects for an enrollment that will tax the capacity of the institution, the fall term of Lenoir college began today, matriculation requiring most of the freshmen to put on a new hat.

## MORRISON SEES NEED FOR SPECIAL SESSION

Asheville, Aug. 24.—The special session of the general assembly will be called notwithstanding the fact that many cities are cutting down their budgets, Governor Morrison stated today. It is his opinion that the session should be called together to make necessary legislation to care for the school fund deficit regardless of municipal finances or, rather, the lack of them. Governor Morrison considers the school deficit a debt the state should be prompt to pay and will urge such action.

## FOLKS GOING TO HELL IN CARS

"Cyclone Mack" Says People Have Gone Pleasure Mad and Sin is All Venerated Over, Causing People to Pray Against a Wall—Some Husbands Cruel to Their Wives and Some Wives Cross as Fighting Cats and Jealous to the Point of Murder.

Harmony, Aug. 31.—Rev. B. F. McLendon, better known as "Cyclone Mack," was brought to Harmony from Bennettsville, S. C., Thursday by Rev. J. M. Wall, J. B. Parks and Rev. Mr. Swearingen. Though Rev. Mr. McLendon was advised by his family physician to remain at his home until August 28 when he begins a series of revival at Spencer he came feeling that the people of Harmony and surrounding communities would be sadly disappointed unless he came. The party that went for him arrived here about 9 o'clock p. m. Until his arrival Rev. W. A. Newell of Statesville, took charge of the song service.

Upon introducing himself to the audience Mr. McLendon said it had been reported to him that he would not go to small places to conduct services, but this is a mistake. He stated that the cause of his physical disability the filling in at small places during his revival held at larger cities; that he had spent only five days at his home this year.

Though not being able physically to preach, he gave as his text "Prayer." He said that he only knew one verse in the Bible 14 years ago when he was converted, and that was this: "If you love me keep my commandments." The reason prayers are not effective most people pray against a wall—"You ask and receive not because you ask amiss." The chief purpose of prayer is that God may be glorified. Most prayer is of a selfish standpoint.

The country is going to hell in cars. People have gone pleasure mad. Read Luke 11:13. The sin is all venerated over. If prayers are ineffective, pray the prayer of David, "Help me to see myself as thus seest me." The reason thousands of people have gone to the bone yard, is because they have venerated over the sin and prayed against a wall. God is the same today, yesterday and tomorrow. God doesn't change. If you want prayer in your heart live on the square with God. Something else that hinders prayer anything that takes the first place in one's life is an idol. Let God have the first place in our lives or none at all. Man makes idol of his reputation, his wife, his children or his earthly goods—all men should love their wives more, but God must occupy first place in everything, a stingy man is a prayerless man in prayer. Many people get all they can and can all they get. "Will a man rob God?" We have all robbed God in tithes and offerings. If you pay one tenth of all, you pay an honest debt, then you must give out of the nine tenths left. It is just as impossible for a man not to prosper who pays one tenth as it is to stand in the rain and not get wet. Much more is spent for tobacco, for chewing smoking and snuff, than is given to the church of God. Mr. McLendon urged that those who use tobacco might perhaps do it without unchristianizing themselves, but not to use it in public places; lay it on the outside on a stump or log, he says he guarantees no dog or hog will bother it. Only three animals use tobacco, a worm, billy goat and man. If the church is what it should be we would need no fraternal orders, such as K. P., Masonic and Odd Fellows, all of which Mr. McLendon says he is a member. You can't out give God. "Bear ye one another's burdens." The reason a lot of people don't get their prayers through is the way they live in the homes. Some husbands keep their wives and families so afraid of them they have to stay on dress parade to fill his orders while some women are cross as fighting cats and jealous if her husband tips his hat while she goes with him down street. If you expect answer to prayed every obstacle must be removed between man and God, the line must be clear.

## MAN REFUSES TO BURY SON'S BODY

Casket, Draped With U. S. Flag, Rasts on Chairs in Parlor of Home. (Charlotte Observer.)

Statesville, Sept. 3.—The keeping of a dead body in the home is a very unusual and exceptional occurrence. John P. Spaks, of Union Grove township, refuses to bury the body of his son, Thomas B. Spaks, who was killed in France in October, 1918. The remains of the dead soldier boy were shipped from France to the United States, arriving at the home in Iredell county on the 13th of August, 1921.

The report being circulated that Mr. Spaks was keeping the remains of his son in the home and would not consider burying it caused an investigation on the part of County Welfare Officer W. W. Holland. Yesterday morning Mr. Holland, accompanied by County Physician Dr. Ross McElwee and Sheriff M. P. Alexander, drove in a car to the Spaks home, 20 miles north of Statesville. The box in which the casket was shipped was seen lying under a shed near the house this morning. The casket, draped in a United States flag, was resting on chairs inside the home, where it was placed by the undertaker on its arrival three weeks ago. There was nothing offensive about the casket and the mother and other members of the household were moving around looking after the duties of the home as though the casket were a piece of choice furniture in the best room in the house.

The deceased, Thomas B. Spaks, was born March 3, 1901. Before he was sixteen, he volunteered for army service, becoming a member of the Iredell Blues. He was later attached to the regular army and was sent to France, where he was killed in action on October 4, 1918. His body was buried in a French cemetery, and at the request of the father, was transferred by the Government last month.

Had Casket Opened

Immediately following the arrival of the body at the home, the father, who has the reputation of being a man of very peculiar and uncompromising ideas and convictions, first decided that he wanted to satisfy himself that the casket contained the remains of his own boy. He therefore had the casket opened and found little more than a mass of skeleton. The teeth and dental work with which he was familiar, the length and size of the bones of the body all gave Mr. Spaks good hope that the remains were those of his son. He then announced his purpose to keep the body in the house and not bury it. During the past few days, however, he stated that he meant to build a special room on or near the house in which to keep the body and he is now arranging to have timber cut for that purpose.

Mr. Spaks treated the visitors with special courtesy and consideration. He manifested no stubborn or rebellious disposition in regard to the request of the officers and friends to have his boy's body buried, stating that he would bury only if required by law to do so, or if it was found necessary from a sanitary standpoint. "I do not want to bury my boy now," said Mr. Spaks to a newspaper man, "but I will bury him if I have to, or if it is unsanitary to keep him in the house. I am expecting another son, who is in Germany in the United States Army, to come home in a few months and we might decide to bury him then. I prefer to fix a place for him in or near the house, since he has already been buried once, and keep him until I am dead and have his bones buried with me. I do not want my body left out when I die, and after I am gone I do not want my boy's body left out, as the farm might change hands and I would not want his body neglected or abused in any way."

Won't Collect Insurance.

Mr. Spaks refuses to make application to the Government for the \$10,000 war insurance which his son had taken on entering the war. Another peculiarity of Mr. Spaks, which is that, while he does not go to church himself nor permit the members of his family to attend church, still he is said to be a constant reader of the Bible, conducts family worship in the home and can quote the Scripture freely and accurately when the occasion demands.

"What will be done with the body of the dead soldier?" was asked the officers yesterday on their return to Statesville from a visit to the Spaks home. The reply was that nothing could be done. If the keeping of the body in the home was found to be unsanitary the man could be forced by law to bury it. The county physician does not find that it is dangerous to the health of the family and the officers are therefore at the end of their row.

The members of the Spaks household do not express any dissatisfaction over the trend of affairs. They freely yield to the wishes of the head of the home and state that what he does is satisfactory to them.

So, for the present at least, the body of Thomas B. Spaks will rest undisturbed in the modest home of his parents among the scenic hills of northern Iredell.

## LOANS TO FARMERS

Chester, S. C., Sept. 6.—In discussing the loans made by the farm loan bank at Columbia, S. C., during the month of August, D. A. Houston, president of that institution, stated that \$1,516,000 had been loaned on farms in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

## BOARD OF HEALTH ISSUES WARNING

Fake Eye Specialists, Declares Dr. Rankin, Claim They Represent Board.

Unscrupulous men pretending to be eye specialists are operating in a number of sections of the state and fraudulently advertising themselves as representatives of the State Board of Health, according to reports which are reaching the board.

Rumors of such operations have been received from the counties of Caswell, Buncombe, Wilkes, Cumberland, and Wake. In all instances the reports indicate that the operators have been visiting the smaller towns and rural sections, posing as representatives of the State Board of Health sent out to give free examinations of the eyes, and then fitting and selling glasses. They apparently confine their operations to a few days in a given community, and then move on to fresh pastures.

Such alleged specialists are taking and fraud of the rankest sort, declares Dr. W. S. Rankin, State Health Officer, in discussing the matter.

## FARMERS PLEASED AT TOBACCO PRICES

Wilson, N. C., Sept. 6.—Prices of tobacco on the opening of the market here today averaged 15 cents a pound, all tobacco of a grade above ten cent being in demand.

Tobaccoists and farmers were apparently pleased with the opening average. 30,000 pounds were in the warehouses. Most of the tobacco was of the first priming variety.

## MORE DRASTIC TUBERCULOSIS ORDINANCE FOR ASHEVILLE

Asheville, Sept. 6.—A new city ordinance providing that no institution for the treatment of tuberculosis patients may be operated within the feet of the property line of an abutting property owner is being considered by the city commissioners here.

Already the proposed ordinance has passed its first reading and is to be taken up next week for further consideration.

The new law stipulates that all institutions now in conflict with the ordinance must be suppressed by September 2, 1922. Mayor Roberts says the proposed ordinance is more drastic than its predecessor by reason of the fact that the old ordinance set a 200-foot deadline to such buildings, while the new ordinance will set 100 foot isolation zone for abutting property lines.

Those familiar with the situation here say that more than 50 sanatoria within the city will be affected by the ordinance and will have to cease operation under the term of the law.

## JUST A LITTLE AFRAID NERVY CHIEF MIGHT BE TOO NERVY

(Greensboro News.)

Raleigh, Sept. 6.—Adjutant General Metts, on receiving notice from Concord today that the strikers had not returned to Gibson mills this morning as the evidence had all along indicated they would, held himself in readiness for any call.

For General Metts does not think there is any government in Democratic Concord or Republican Cabarrus, that is to say, not enough to hurt. The general has found no evidence that the officials in either unit can control the strike troubles and he knows that the state is liable to have another interference on its hands.

General Metts, therefore, backs up Governor Morrison, as nearly everybody else seems to be doing, in what his excellency already has done in Cabarrus and is ready to do again, should the county and the town go pussysfoot again. The general has faith in the new chief of police. That youngster isn't afraid of the strike troubles; but he may do his duty and nobody knows what that would cost in Concord and Cabarrus.

## WOMAN BEATS THEM ALL

Classed as the Most Expert Welder and Earns \$30 Per Day Welding Cables on Suspension Bridges.

Kingston, N. Y., Sept. 3.—Folks who have been gazing curiously at the structural activities on the suspension bridge 300 feet above Roudout Creek, were amazed today to learn that the blond worker in overalls who is welding cables is a woman. She is Mrs. Catherine Nelson of Jersey City, a widow with two children, and is earning \$30 a day. When her husband died she tried working as a stewardess on an ocean liner but found the pay too small and obtained a job in a machine shop. When the bridge contractors asked a company in Jersey City for its best welder she was sent to Kingston.

## AMERICA AT THE CROSS ROADS

Harding and the Irreconcilables (By David F. St. Clair.)

Washington, September 7.—Will Harding sound the nations at the arms limitation conference on his much talked of association of nations. That question has been much speculated on here since the recess of congress began two weeks ago.

It has been affirmed and then denied Secretary Hughes was working on a scheme for some sort of an international compact to present to the conference. The belief that he is has foundation in the growing conviction that there can be no assurance of peace and no real reconstruction of the world until the United States has joined either the present league of nations or some substitute organization.

Since the invitations were sent out almost every nation and dissatisfied group of people on earth have demanded representation at the conference table. The presence of all the small nations of Europe in particular has been so insisted that Secretary Hughes has had to explain to their representatives personally the scope of the conference could not be broadened so as to embrace them. But every one of them will be on hand to watch from some angle or corner what takes place. The clamor of these nations to be represented is nothing less than a call to the United States to join in a league where all the nations may be heard.

The ardent desire of Great Britain, France and Italy to participate, it is reported, exceeds their desire to limit armaments and settle questions in the Pacific. These nations, it is said, will make a direct appeal to Harding and Hughes and the Republican senate to name any modifications and reservations the United States may demand in joining the present league. Its name can be changed but its essential fundamental principles should be retained. Lord Bryce in a recent address at Williams College, Mass., said that Europe would not abandon the league as it was the only constructive international compact of any value that was salvaged from the war. Former Prime Minister Viviani of France has just addressed an eloquent appeal to America not to remain isolated in its policy towards Europe. A League Campaign now Threatened.

But a still stronger factor is now working here to put this country in the league. This factor is known as the moral element, the element that forced congress to pass and the State legislatures to ratify the 18th amendment to the constitution. The greatest unit in this element is the Protestant churches. These churches have in their body such organs as "The American Federation of Churches" and they are strongly represented in the International Council of Churches.

If Mr. Harding fails at the arms conference to take any step to make the country a partner in an international compact, we are told by such men as Fred Smith, John R. Mott and other international Y and church workers that the moral element of America will start a campaign for a league of nations and if necessary will smash all present party lines. Mr. Smith who is one of the ablest itinerant Y platform speakers in the world has recently returned from Europe. Sunday night after a call at the White House, he addressed an immense church audience in Washington, his subject being "America at the Cross Roads." He told his audience that the whole world now depended on America morally for the rescue of civilization even more than it did in the great war and if this country persisted in its present isolation it would be lost with the other nations and of course it would deserve its fate.

Smith said Harding had taken him into a room at his Marion home while he was a candidate for President and locked the door. The candidate then confided in him in his most confidential and earnest manner that he was heart and soul for an association of nations. Upon that assurance Smith said he voted for him and like many millions of other Americans who had voted the same way he had been waiting for the President to act. He had given the leading men in Europe the assurance that Harding would put us in some sort of a league with them.

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Attorney General Daugherty will ask William J. Burns, chief of the bureau of investigation, to follow up the allegations made against the order and the proof offered, with a view to seeing what can be done to punish or break up the organization, which is now nation-wide in scope.

A senator, whose name is withheld by request, and one house member, will ask Congress to inquire into the activities, the purpose and the effects of the Ku Klux Klan, with a view to enacting laws to prevent such movements in the future.

The World story supports reports to the attorney general on the efforts of the Klan to get a strong foothold in the nation.

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"I was never asked to join, and never in any way authorized or consented to the use of my name in that connection."

The attorney general through Col. Goff, his assistant, also denied the statement of the Ku Klux Klan organ, The Star, that the department of justice had ever given the organization a "clean bill of health."

Men are either anvils or hammers—them that ain't bellows.—Ashland Bugle.

## SHORT ITEMS

Richmond, Va., Sept. 6.—John Mitchell, Jr., president of a negro bank here, was nominated as a candidate for governor by the "Lilly Black" wing of the republican party at its convention here last night.

New Orleans, Sept. 6.—Advances of as much as \$9 a bale carried the price of cotton to approximately 20 cents a pound today on the contract market. October was the strongest month and showed advances of 177 points compared with Friday's close.

Asheville, Sept. 5.—Four men, A. M. Lail, Alonzo Martin, John Young and T. L. Brown, of Hickory, and seven containers with over 30 gallons of corn whiskey were taken into custody Friday when deputy sheriffs raided a deserted farm house several miles from here on the French River. In default of bond the men are in the county jail awaiting trial for transporting.

Hickory, Sept. 6.—Miss Willie Deal and J. Henry Peeler, two popular young people, were united in marriage in Charlotte, recently, the fact just becoming known. Mr. Peeler holds a responsible position with the Shuford Hardware company, is a former world war veteran and a fine young man. His bride is one of the most popular girls in Hickory.

In certain sections of the Northwest farmers make their own refrigerators by digging a well about twenty-five feet deep, putting rough stones on the bottom for drainage and filling the well with snow. Water is poured on the snow making a pillar of solid ice, some of which remains all summer. Ladders built against the side of the pit facilitate entrance to the ice as it melts away toward the bottom.

Madison, W. Va., Sept. 5.—Taking advantage of the general amputation of some which occurred throughout the recently disturbed area of the West Virginia coal fields, Brigadier General H. H. Bandholtz today journeyed by special train up the valley of the coal river on an official inspection tour. Over the entire length of his route to Blair, including stops at Clothier and Jeffery, he found not so much as a ripple of disorder.

New York, Sept. 5.—"The recent change in the demand for raw cotton and cotton goods constitutes a fact of fundamental importance with far reaching consequences to the whole country," said Eugene Meyer, Jr., director of the war finance corporation, in a statement today. "It means that thirteen southern states with a population of approximately 30 millions, whose buying power has been reduced to a minimum since the beginning of this year, are being restored to a normal purchasing power."

Concord, Sept. 6.—Only a small increase in the number of operatives at work in the cotton mills was reported this morning, following the vote taken Saturday night by union members to return to work today. The vote Saturday night was to not determine if union members would return to work individually, union officials state but to determine if the strikers would return in a body, providing all old employees were given their old jobs back. At all of the mills in the city an increase in the number of operatives was reported, but a large number of the union members are still idle.

Raleigh, Sept. 6.—Adjutant General Metts, reading Concord dispatches today, and observing that the strike is not entirely settled, used the occasion to emphasize the weakness of Concord and Cabarrus governments, and to explain why Governor Morrison had found it necessary to interfere. General Metts declares that any open minded man will agree when he surveys the local fields that Governor Morrison acted wisely. The local officers have not taken charge, and he says this after having reluctantly concluded that troops were necessary.

Newton, Sept. 6.—The board of county commissioners met here in regular session yesterday with all members of the board present. The commissioners petitioned the highway commission of the state to build four miles of roads beginning in the corporate limits of Newton, following the state highway east of town and also asked the highway commission to build four miles from Catawba river this way. These two sections of the roads being red clay and being more on the need of being hard surfaced for the present than the remainder of the road. The county signed the contract with the state where the state agrees to build a hard surface road from Newton by throw off. His league friends are waiting with doubt thickening.

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Concord, Sept. 6.—Only a small increase in the number of operatives at work in the cotton mills was reported this morning, following the vote taken Saturday night by union members to return to work today. The vote Saturday night was to not determine if union members would return to work individually, union officials state but to determine if the strikers would return in a body, providing all old employees were given their old jobs back. At all of the mills in the city an increase in the number of operatives was reported, but a large number of the union members are still idle.

Raleigh, Sept. 6.—Adjutant General Metts, reading Concord dispatches today, and observing that the strike is not entirely settled, used the occasion to emphasize the weakness of Concord and Cabarrus governments, and to explain why Governor Morrison had found it necessary to interfere. General Metts declares that any open minded man will agree when he surveys the local fields that Governor Morrison acted wisely. The local officers have not taken charge, and he says this after having reluctantly concluded that troops were necessary.

Newton, Sept. 6.—The board of county commissioners met here in regular session yesterday with all members of the board present. The commissioners petitioned the highway commission of the state to build four miles of roads beginning in the corporate limits of Newton, following the state highway east of town and also asked the highway commission to build four miles from Catawba river this way. These two sections of the roads being red clay and being more on the need of being hard surfaced for the present than the remainder of the road. The county signed the contract with the state where the state agrees to build a hard surface road from Newton by throw off. His league friends are waiting with doubt thickening.

## AMERICA AT THE CROSS ROADS

Harding and the Irreconcilables (By David F. St. Clair.)

Washington, September 7.—Will Harding sound the nations at the arms limitation conference on his much talked of association of nations. That question has been much speculated on here since the recess of congress began two weeks ago.

It has been affirmed and then denied Secretary Hughes was working on a scheme for some sort of an international compact to present to the conference. The belief that he is has foundation in the growing conviction that there can be no assurance of peace and no real reconstruction of the world until the United States has joined either the present league of nations or some substitute organization.

Since the invitations were sent out almost every nation and dissatisfied group of people on earth have demanded representation at the conference table. The presence of all the small nations of Europe in particular has been so insisted that Secretary Hughes has had to explain to their representatives personally the scope of the conference could not be broadened so as to embrace them. But every one of them will be on hand to watch from some angle or corner what takes place. The clamor of these nations to be represented is nothing less than a call to the United States to join in a league where all the nations may be heard.

The ardent desire of Great Britain, France and Italy to participate, it is reported, exceeds their desire to limit armaments and settle questions in the Pacific. These nations, it is said, will make a direct appeal to Harding and Hughes and the Republican senate to name any modifications and reservations the United States may demand in joining the present league. Its name can be changed but its essential fundamental principles should be retained. Lord Bryce in a recent address at Williams College, Mass., said that Europe would not abandon the league as it was the only constructive international compact of any value that was salvaged from the war. Former Prime Minister Viviani of France has just addressed an eloquent appeal to America not to remain isolated in its policy towards Europe. A League Campaign now Threatened.

But a still stronger factor is now working here to put this country in the league. This factor is known as the moral element, the element that forced congress to pass and the State legislatures to ratify the 18th amendment to the constitution. The greatest unit in this element is the Protestant churches. These churches have in their body such organs as "The American Federation of Churches" and they are strongly represented in the International Council of Churches.

If Mr. Harding fails at the arms conference to take any step to make the country a partner in an international compact, we are told by such men as Fred Smith, John R. Mott and other international Y and church workers that the moral element of America will start a campaign for a league of nations and if necessary will smash all present party lines. Mr. Smith who is one of the ablest itinerant Y platform speakers in the world has recently returned from Europe. Sunday night after a call at the White House, he addressed an immense church audience in Washington, his subject being "America at the Cross Roads." He told his audience that the whole world now depended on America morally for the rescue of civilization even more than it did in the great war and if this country persisted in its present isolation it would be lost with the other nations and of course it would deserve its fate.

Smith said Harding had taken him into a room at his Marion home while he was a candidate for President and locked the door. The candidate then confided in him in his most confidential and earnest manner that he was heart and soul for an association of nations. Upon that assurance Smith said he voted for him and like many millions of other Americans who had voted the same way he had been waiting for the President to act. He had given the leading men in Europe the assurance that Harding would put us in some sort of a league with them.

Now Smith had gone again to Harding and the President took him into a room at the White House and bolted the door again. In the same earnest confidential voice he told him he was still for an association of nations. Now said Smith to this church audience within the very shadow of the White House many of us who voted for him are not so sure of him as

## SEARCHLIGHT TO BE THROWN ON KU KLUX ACTIVITIES BY SECRET SERVICE OFFICIALS.

New York World Expose Creates Attention in Washington. (By H. E. C. Bryant in Charlotte Observer.)

Washington, Sept. 6.—A story in the New York World of today, exposing the secrets of the Ku Klux Klan, attracted much attention among North Carolinians. As a result of the facts brought out the department of justice will make an investigation, and among those to be questioned will be Major Bruce Craven.

Attorney General Daugherty will ask William J. Burns, chief of the bureau of investigation, to follow up the allegations made against the order and the proof offered, with a view to seeing what can be done to punish or break up the organization, which is now nation-wide in scope.

A senator, whose name is withheld by request, and one house member, will ask Congress to inquire into the activities, the purpose and the effects of the Ku Klux Klan, with a view to enacting laws to prevent such movements in the future.

The World story supports reports to the attorney general on the efforts of the Klan to get a strong foothold in the nation.

Attorney General Daugherty denied today that he was a member of the organization. When told that Major Craven former grand dragon of North Carolina had stated, on quitting his job and the organization, one of the reasons he joined the Ku Klux Klan was that he had been informed that Mr. Daugherty belonged to it, the attorney general said:

"I was never asked to join, and never in any way authorized or consented to the use of my name in that connection."

The attorney general through Col. Goff, his assistant, also denied the statement of the Ku Klux Klan organ, The Star, that the department of justice had ever given the organization a "clean bill of health."

Men are either anvils or hammers—them that ain't bellows.—Ashland Bugle.

## SHORT ITEMS

Richmond, Va., Sept. 6.—John Mitchell, Jr., president of a negro bank here, was nominated as a candidate for governor by the "Lilly Black" wing of the republican party at its convention here last night.

New Orleans, Sept. 6.—Advances of as much as \$9 a bale carried the price of cotton to approximately 20 cents a pound today on the contract market. October was the strongest month and showed advances of 177 points compared with Friday's close.

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