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## BRACEY, THE HOWIE MINE PROMOTER, IS NOW IN JAIL

Convicted Feb. 16 on Charge of False Pretenses in Connection With Sale of Union County Mining Stock.

Stephen H. Bracey, wealthy gold mine promoter, has been convicted of false pretenses in connection with the sale of Howie Mining Co. stock, and is now in the Wheeling, W. Va., jail. His sentence has not been learned. The Wheeling Telegraph of Feb. 16, gave the following account of the proceedings:

"The case was based upon one of four indictments found against Bracey by the grand jury, based upon the evidence of David H. McGary, and growing out of the sale of stocks by Bracey to McGary in the Howie Mining Co., located in Union county, North Carolina. McGary alleges to have lost a total of \$23,000, but the particular indictment upon which Bracey was arraigned, alleged the obtaining by false pretense of but \$5,980.

"The case was given to the criminal court jury late yesterday afternoon and the jury deliberated until midnight. At that hour they were locked up for the night and resumed their deliberations at 9:30 this morning. The verdict of guilty was returned at 11:10 this morning.

"Attorneys Frank A. O'Brien and D. B. Evans, appearing with Attorney Fred A. Dolph of Baltimore, in behalf of Bracey, at once moved to set aside the verdict and grant a new trial. This motion was set for argument on next Thursday morning.

"The case is one that has attracted unusual attention. Bracey had an office here in 1914, and a staff promoting the development of his gold mining properties. Following the filing of charges by McGary, there were criminal and civil proceedings in several courts, and these climax in the indictment of Bracey on four counts with McGary as the complaining witness. Just preceding the opening of the trial here this week, Bracey pressed a suit at Baltimore against McGary, alleging libel, and for which damages were asked, but McGary won the case."

## EVERY FAMILY SHOULD BEGIN LAYING IN WOOD SUPPLY

That is the Advice of Mr. Blakeney, Who Also Recommends Establishment of Municipal Wood Yard.

To the Editor of The Journal:—As fuel administrator for Union county, perhaps I should talk to the public a little at this juncture. It is not my custom to advise people about their domestic economies and private affairs unless specially requested, but we have fallen on times which require government supervision in matters touching our mode of life heretofore regarded as strictly private. I am not now, however, issuing any government order, but merely sounding a word of warning and issuing what might well be called government advice. On account of the exigencies arising out of this war the United States government found it necessary to create two departments to regulate the conservation and supply of fuel and food in order to avoid as much as possible suffering caused by inequitable distribution. In the light of experience in other countries, this was a wise step and taken none too soon.

In order to make the organization of these two departments more efficient, State fuel and food administrators were appointed who in turn appointed county fuel and food administrators and all of them give their time and labor without stint and without pay. Speaking now in regard to fuel, I will say that Mr. A. W. McAlister, the State fuel administrator, has put forth enormous energy to ameliorate conditions in this State. He did not succeed in getting into the State domestic coal in sufficient quantity to meet the normal demand, but he made every effort to do so and has distributed tons of literature bearing on the fuel problem.

When the situation was most acute municipal wood yards were instituted and fuel supplied to them distributed at cost. In some cities wood chopping brigades were organized and sent to the country to cut wood free of charge to prevent any one from freezing to death and to provide against future deficiency in the supply. We considered the advisability of adopting these and similar measures here in Union county but there is plenty of wood to prevent actual suffering in this locality even in the entire absence of domestic coal, and the thing that gave us most concern was the impassable condition of the roads leading to the towns of the county. Hoping all the time for better weather and hence better roads, we did not even adopt the expedient prevailing elsewhere of fixing the prices of wood per cord, preferring to let competition and the law of supply and demand regulate the price. We could have fixed the price of wood here under the law, but your committee was fearful that more harm than good might result under conditions here prevailing. We might fix the price, but there is no law to compel a man to sell at that price and such a law might keep some wood off the market and thereby cause less distribution than might otherwise be the case.

### A WARNING

This leads us to emphasize the point with which we are now more especially concerned and that is not to be caught napping again in this matter of a fuel supply. We are in-

formed by the authorities that there is no certainty of a sufficient supply of domestic coal next winter and the outlook is for another huge deficiency with a repetition of railroad congestion facilities, due like all our troubles (as they claim these days) to the war and weather conditions. As the war continues this country will be called upon more and more to supply the exhaustion of the allies in Europe as well as our own ever increasing necessities and therefore it behooves us to look ahead and try to provide against future contingency.

We certainly can keep warm here in Union county next winter if we will begin now to provide fuel against that time and that is the main object of this article. As fuel administrator I therefore suggest and urge that every family begin now to lay in a supply of wood for next winter soon by contract or otherwise. Much wood can be cut yet before they get very busy on the farms with their crops and if every family does not get a sufficient supply now on hand or in sight, the matter should most certainly not be delayed until the crops are ready for harvest in the fall.

Remembering too that there is always some shiftless and some transient people, the city should provide a municipal wood yard in good time so as to supply any possible deficiencies next winter and prevent actual suffering. So we call upon our city authorities to give this matter immediate attention and with this word of warning and suggestion I am, Very respectfully,

W. S. BLAKENEY,  
County Fuel Administrator.

## COOK GETS CHAIN GANG

SENTENCE FOR BLACKMAIL.

Man Indicted for Attempted Blackmail of Aged Atlanta Mayor Also Fined \$1,000.

Atlanta, Feb. 27. — One year at hard labor on the chain gang and a fine of \$1,000—the maximum penalty for a misdemeanor—was the sentence imposed in Fulton county superior court today upon J. W. Cook, a real estate agent, indicted jointly with Mrs. Margaret Hirsch, wife of H. H. Hirsch, an insurance man, for an attempt to blackmail Asa G. Candler, Atlanta's 65-year-old multimillionaire mayor, for \$500,000. Mrs. Hirsch will be placed on trial Friday. The jury deliberated less than half an hour and the entire trial consumed not quite eight hours. A jury was secured and the state had presented the bulk of its evidence before the noon recess, in the testimony of Mr. Candler, the first witness, and Forest Adair, who acted as his agent in dealing with Cook and Mrs. Hirsch. The defense depended on a brief statement by Cook himself.

After sentence had been imposed by Judge Hill, counsel for Cook made a motion for a new trial. The court setting March 16 as the date for hearing arguments on the plea and fixed the amount of Cook's bond at \$3,000. The court room was crowded including many women and children. Mrs. Hirsch entered court wearing a heavy veil, but after taking her seat with counsel for Cook, she removed it and smiled and nodded to those about her in an unconcerned manner. Cook told the jury that he at no time sought to procure any money from Mayor Candler, and that the two conferences that he had with Forest Adair were at the latter's solicitation. He told of seeing Mrs. Hirsch go to the mayor's office on two occasions and of watching through the letter slot in the door. He said he once saw them in a compromising position, and that while he was at the door, Mrs. Hirsch rushed over and opened it. He saw a garment on the floor, which he picked up. He displayed to the jury what he claimed was the same garment.

Mayor Candler told of meeting Mrs. Hirsch in connection with charity work and of her visiting his office to discuss such work. He said he never had made any improper advances to her and that on her last visit after she had removed her coat and hat while he was investigating her statement that a man was looking in the window, he left the office to go to that of his son in the same building and met Cook outside the door.

Adair told of a conference with Mrs. Hirsch February 12, at which Asa G. Candler, Jr., was present. Mrs. Hirsch, he asserted, asked for \$500,000 for herself and \$5,000 to pay her husband's debts. Cook, he said, had been the first one to suggest a money payment, that having been at a previous conference. Adair said his object in carrying on the negotiations was to secure evidence and report the matter to the authorities.

The state introduced witnesses in an effort to show a close relationship between Cook and Mrs. Hirsch.

Thomas C. Martin, vice-president of the Third National bank, testified that two days before the grand jury returned the indictments, Mrs. Hirsch called at the bank, told him that she expected soon to come into possession of a large sum of money and wanted his advice about investing it.

## Wadesboro Colored Man Doing Good Work For W. S. S.

(From the Wadesboro Ansonian.)

Last week the Ansonian mentioned the excellent work being done by Westley Bennett, colored, of Lileville township, among the colored people in behalf of the war savings stamps campaign. Wesley continues his good work and will speak at Parsons Grove next Sunday at 11 o'clock.

To avenge our wrongs cost more than to protect our rights.

## NEGRO WOMAN KILLED NEAR MARVIN SEVERAL DAYS AGO

Will Ross, Colored, in Jail Awaiting Preliminary Hearing on Charge of Shooting Rhoda Campbell, Feb. 22.

Will Ross, colored, aged about 30 years, is in jail charged with the killing of Rhoda Campbell, also colored, on Friday, Feb. 22, near Marvin. His preliminary hearing has been set for Saturday before Judge W. O. Lemmond. Ross claims the shooting was purely accidental.

The killing was not generally known in Monroe until Wednesday afternoon. At first it was thought the shooting was of a minor nature, as the woman lived a couple of days after receiving the pistol wound in her abdomen.

Details of the affair are hard to learn. Ross positively refuses to utter a single word in connection with the charge, but his attorneys, Messrs. Stack & Parker, stated that their client claimed the shooting was accidental.

It is said that the Campbell woman, together with two friends, was walking down a road in the Marvin neighborhood when Ross came up with a pistol in his hand. Though the warrant charges that he shot with intent to kill, Ross claims, according to his attorneys, that he poked the pistol at the woman in fun, and that it in some manner was discharged.

When she fell wounded, it is said, Ross carried her to her home, and secured medical aid. The woman lingered until Sunday, when the end came. Ross was indicted on the charge of assault and battery with deadly weapon with intent to kill. After the woman died the warrant was changed to murder.

It is said that the Campbell woman stated that she shot herself, but it is declared that she made this statement so as not to cause her father, who is very ill, any unnecessary alarm.

The arrest was made by Mr. W. F. Shields, who was deputized by Esq. G. W. Sutton. A number of witnesses have been summoned for the State.

## THOUGHT SON HAD SAILED WHEN HIS TRUNK ARRIVED

A Letter was Soon Received, However, Assuring Mr. Wingate That His Son was Still on American Soil. (From the Waxhaw Enterprise.)

The Food Administration did not go far enough when it put the ban on trading in pullets and hens. It should have included calves in the list, too. Every year there are hundreds of young calves slaughtered which if left alive for only a few months more would afford more than twice as much food. It occurred to us at first that the food administration should not prohibit the farmer trading in chickens locally as the department of agriculture has tried so long to educate the farmer to the idea of raising spring chickens for the market in order to help buy his supplies for making the crop. When the final interpretation was put on the ruling it allowed the usual trading locally in hens and pullets and there was no further objection save by a few profiteers.

The 1917 crop of cotton was very late being gathered on account of weather conditions in December and there is a good deal of cotton yet to be marketed. Nearly all of the cotton picked since Christmas is of low grade and the seed cotton buyers have had a good business buying this up as it was picked and ginning and selling it by the bale. We understand that some of these buyers have been a little bit careless about buying seed cotton on which some of the Waxhaw supply merchants had a lien or mortgage. They should take notice that in such cases they are apt to have the cotton to pay for twice, as the merchant who has a lien on it may recover from the man who bought the cotton. Legitimate business in buying seed cotton is all right but there has been entirely too much of it this year.

Messrs. Ferd Plyler, Frank Niven, Bunyan Winchester, Turner McQuirt and Earl Byrum went from Waxhaw to Camp Jackson Saturday. All of these men were in class 1 and they asked the local board at Monroe to send them in the first contingent from Union county. Their request was granted and they went Saturday. Several other young men from town and the nearby country will go this week or next.

An experienced and successful farmer was talking the other day about spring plowing. He said that farmers were so anxious to get started to plowing this spring that there was great danger of plowing the ground too wet and he warned against this, for if ground is plowed too wet the first time in the spring it is hard to cultivate all of that year and sometimes takes several years to get it back to normal.

Mr. W. P. Wingate was considerably surprised Sunday morning to receive by express from Columbia the trunk belonging to his son, Mr. Clarence A. Wingate, who was at Camp Jackson. Mr. Wingate had heard nothing from Clarence for some days and when the trunk came in unannounced he feared that his son had already left camp for the port of departure for France. However, he heard next day from Clarence and he is still in Columbia but has been moved up town from camp and did not need the things in his trunk.

Every officeholder has his trials—and some have their convictions.

## MAJOR GRAHAM WANTS ARMY TO FURNISH SOUTH HANDS

Pleads For an Extension of the Draft So Farmers Can Be Dispatched to Help Make the Crops.

Raleigh, Feb. 27. — Maj. W. A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture, on whose department falls the job of feeding the state, is encouraged to hope that the late visit of commissioners to Washington will relieve the strain on agricultural workers.

Major Graham a few weeks ago championed the extension of the selective draft. He did not like the proposal to meet the farm labor situation with imported workers. He did not like to see an American soldier's farm job preempted by somebody in another world. The commissioners in Memphis came near to adopting Major Graham's suggestions and sent him to Washington to lay his plan before the department.

Major Graham gathered good experience in the service of the Confederacy. Men pressed into the armies were relieved when the greatest pressure was relieved to return and work the farms. Something of that character is proposed to congress now. In an interview today Major Graham said:

WANTS IT APPLIED TO INDIVIDUALS

"The visit of the commissioners of the southern states to Washington to urge the detailing of enlisted men for agricultural purposes was opportune. The northwest farmers and farm organizations had been in Washington for several months calling attention to the fact of how taking the agricultural men for military service was not leaving enough men in agriculture to maintain and increase the amount of food necessary to support the army.

"Under the present selective draft there are no exemptions and it seems that none will be granted; but on February 6 the senate enacted a bill allowing the secretary of war to furlough men to engage in civil occupations and pursuits, but this must be done in 'units.' This does not suit the southern farmer and we wish to have the bill amended so as to apply to individuals in place of units.

"The commissioners had interviews with the leading members of congress and senators and they favored this change in the law, and it would be proposed last night when the house committee on military affairs would consider the bill. It is almost certain that a bill of this nature will be enacted, and the secretary of war can furlough not only those who are called in the future, but even those taken by the selective draft.

### TEXAS CASE PRESENTED

"The matter was promptly brought to the attention of the authorities at Washington by the following case: A man in Texas had three sons, who went promptly to the front. Then they called for the third to report. The father told them that he was past 70 years and could not attend to his farm, and there was no power to give any relief and this was the cause of the introduction of this bill. When it is enacted one of the sons can be furloughed or detailed for agricultural purposes and manage the farm.

"Now, on the large farms of the northwest you may form 'units' to operate in certain counties or townships to be furloughed to prepare the land and sow a wheat crop, and return to gather the same; but you can not do so with the cotton and tobacco farmers. The time of chopping cotton to a stand, setting out tobacco and cutting the crop, and picking the cotton, can be arranged. Therefore we desire to have agricultural men furloughed or detailed as individuals. The man with the gun is very important, but he can not do efficient work if he is not properly fed. And he can not keep his gun and accoutrements in first class condition unless men are furloughed for this nature of work as was done in the Confederate army when every man who was thought capable of doing work for ordnance work at Richmond, and only went to the front when all hands were called to service to oppose a raid. Then when the raid was defeated the men detailed returned to their duties in Richmond. This of course was a unit; each man's name was borne on the roll of the company in which he enlisted and his identity preserved, but at the same time he was detailed for work in the ordnance department and was paid as such."

## LONDON AND PARIS REJECT GERMAN PROFFERS OF PEACE

Balfour Says Chancellor in No Way Agrees With Principles Laid Down By President Wilson.

Imperial Chancellor von Hertling has failed to drive a wedge between the entente allies by his reply to President Wilson. The declaration that German aggression in the east is not intended for conquest has come at a time when German acts belie the words of the Chancellor and Paris and London have officially rejected any proffers of the olive branch that the more hopeful of the people saw in the acceptance in principle of the four points enunciated by President Wilson as the basis for peace negotiations.

Arthur J. Balfour, the British secretary for foreign affairs, sounded the keynote of the entente allies when, speaking at London, he said that until German militarism was a thing of the past and there came into existence a court armed with executive powers making the weak nations as safe as the strong, the war

must go on. He characterizes von Hertling's attitude toward Belgium as unsatisfactory and insisted that German practice does not coincide with President Wilson's propositions.

Philipp Scheidemann, the German socialist leader, has voiced the protest of his party to the peace that is being formed on Russia. In a debate in the reichstag he said that Germany must negotiate a peace by understanding and that the independence of Belgium must be secured. He says that the Flemings and Walloons must settle their own differences.

While the German imperial government is trying to convince the world of its disinterestedness in the future of Russia, the advance of the Teuton armies toward Petrograd still goes on. It now appears there will be no armistice on the Russian front until peace is finally consummated. In spite of the claim by the bolshevik government that the Russians were fighting hard for the city of Pskov, the Germans have pushed far to the eastward of that town.

It is rumored that the Teutons have reached the city of Luga, midway between Pskov and Petrograd, Borskov, 60 miles northeast of Minsk, has been captured by the Germans. The German official report says that the Teuton troops in Ukraine have reached Corostsheff, east of Zhitomir, which brings the invaders within 50 miles of Kiev. The Russian troops have refused to fight and those who have not abjectly surrendered are fleeing in a disorderly mob toward the capital. If there is any resistance to the German invasion it must come from the peasants.

American troops have been subjected to a heavy bombardment of gas shells from German batteries. Three Americans are reported to have died from the effects of gas and nine others are said to have suffered severely.

There are not lacking indications that the long-expected German drives along the French and British fronts is impending. Aerial activity of great intensity is reported by the Germans, who claim to have brought down fifteen entente airplanes. At the same time the infantry is not idle and raids have been attempted at widely separated parts in the past 24 hours. One of these was an attack in considerable force by the Germans against French positions near the Butte du Meunil, which the American artillery assisted in capturing recently. The other was north of the Chemin des Dames, where American troops are understood to be in training. Both assaults were broken up by the prompt action of the allied artillery.

British forces have repulsed a hostile attack near St. Quentin. German "frightfulness" has again been exemplified by the sinking of the British hospital ship Glenart Castle. According to the latest advice there are 164 persons missing from the ship, which was fully lighted and carried the distinctive markings of the hospital service when fired upon. American torpedo boats assisted in picking up the survivors.

Unrest in Ireland, which was believed to be very serious, is now said to be of little consequence. The centers of the threatened uprising are reported in the west and south, but arrangements have been made to cope with the situation. Sinn Feiners who have been "hunger-striking" have been released in a number of instances.

Negotiations looking to a union of Lithuania and Saxony with Prince Frederick Christian, son of the king of Saxony, as king of the new state, are said to be under way. The Polish ambition to bring about a resumption of the ancient union between their country and Lithuania seems to be doomed in the light of recent developments.

During the past week 18 British merchantmen were sunk by mines or submarines.

## MANY LIVES WERE LOST WHEN NAVAL TUG FOUNDERED

It Is Thought 29 Perished When Cherokee Was Victimized by Gale Off the Coast.

Philadelphia, Feb. 27. — Twenty-nine men are believed to have lost their lives yesterday morning when the seagoing naval tug Cherokee foundered in a severe gale 15 miles off the Maryland coast. Ten survivors and the bodies of eight members of the crew of 39 were brought here today on two British rescue ships. No trace of the remaining members of the crew was found. Among those missing is Junior Lieut. Edward D. Newell, the commander of the tug.

According to the captain of one of the rescue ships, the primary cause of the disaster was the breaking of the steering gear. A 50-mile north-west gale was blowing and the little vessel was at the mercy of mountainous seas. The tug was thrown broadside to the waves and wallowed in the turbulent sea until her hatches were battered in. In the meantime, two rafts were launched and the crew abandoned the ship as she was about to founder.

"I saw wreckage about six miles from the scene of the disaster," said the captain. "Later I found an upturned boat and then we sighted the raft on which there were 12 men. We took them all aboard and two died of exposure.

"I saw six bodies, and summoned another vessel to pick them up, as I wanted to give assistance to the living men."

It is unwise to judge a man by the criticism of his enemies. Only his friends can properly denounce him.

## THE JAPS MAY INVADE RUSSIA FROM THE EAST

The German Advance, However, is Losing Some of Its Momentum—Japs Eager to Start, It Is Said.

Germany's invasion of Russia has slowed down. During the last 24 hours there have been no reports showing that the Teutons were sweeping ahead with the power shown in the early days of the advance toward Petrograd and there are indications that the movement has lost some of its momentum.

One explanation of this fact may be found in an unofficial, but authenticated dispatch from Petrograd which states that the German troops have received orders from Berlin to advance no farther. This would seem to indicate that the formal peace terms have been accepted and a treaty has been signed by the Teutonic and bolshevik delegates, as the Germans refused to grant an armistice until peace had been negotiated.

In spite of the German report that "operations on the eastern front are taking their normal course," and that another Estonian regiment had placed itself under the command of the German staff, it is asserted in Petrograd that the Russian troops have recovered their fighting spirit and that cosacs, as well as mixed detachments of soldiers, are on their way to the front.

### PEACE TERMS OFFERED RUSSIA

Advices from Bucharest are to the effect that the central powers have communicated their peace terms of King Ferdinand of Rumania, who has been granted a short period for consideration. Recent unofficial dispatches stated that Rumania would be asked to cede parts of Dobruja to Bulgaria and to give Germany and Austria preferential treatment in commercial and economic relations. It is officially denied by the Rumanian press bureau in Paris that King Ferdinand will relinquish his throne at the behest of the anti-war party in his country.

Another Spanish cabinet has fallen. In some quarters it is reported to have resulted because of the insistence of the government in adhering to its policy of strict neutrality toward the belligerents in the war. Public opinion in Spain has become inflamed by the sinking recently of five Spanish vessels by German or Austrian submarines.

Russia is facing a new attack, this time in the far east. Japan is known to have sounded the entente allies, especially the United States, as to the advisability of taking steps to prevent tremendous stores of munitions held at Vladivostok and other points along the Siberian railway from falling into the hands of the bolsheviks, or the Germans. Viscount Motono, the Japanese foreign minister, spoke recently on the subject and advices from Paris say that it is believed there that Motono's words were Japan's answer to General Foch's appeal to Japan and the United States to take steps in Siberia.

### WASHINGTON RETICENT

It is admitted at Washington that the matter has been discussed in official circles, but there is much reticence on the part of men closely identified with the administration. No word as to the probable policy of the United States has as yet been given out.

French and British troops have carried out raiding operations against the enemy. The French operations were centered at Verdun and the English on each side of the Scarpe river. In both cases prisoners were brought back by the raiders. On the Australian front there have been encounters by small detachments, and at points the artillery engagements have been quite lively. The air forces of the contending armies have been busy, and several small Italian towns have been bombed by the Teutonic aviators.

Only thirty-eight persons out of 182 on board the British hospital ship Glenart Castle, which was sunk by a submarine in Bristol channel, have been landed. Among the 144 missing are seven female nurses.

## TAR HEEL BLACKS MAY GO TO CAMP JACKSON

Persistently Rumored Negroes of This State and Florida Will Be Sent There For Training.

Camp Jackson, S. C., Feb. 27. — There is a persistent rumor about the recruiting office at Camp Jackson to the effect that the negroes of North Carolina and Florida are to be sent to Camp Jackson. With the exception of about 20 negroes from Florida and a very few from North Carolina, the negroes from these states have not been mobilized. The rumor, however, has no confirmation.

About 1,500 drafted men, mostly negroes from South Carolina, with a scattering of white men from the three states, have reported at Camp Jackson in the last two or three days. They are of the first draft. Of the first draft Florida now owes only 90 white men. However, she is due 4,000 negroes. North Carolina is due 1,500 whites and 6,000 negroes. South Carolina is due 350 whites and 3,000 negroes.

There is also a constant rumor at the camp to the effect that thousands of soldiers are to be transferred to this camp within the next few days. This, too, is unconfirmed.

## Jackson Woman Buys \$1,000 Worth War Savings Stamps.

(From the Waxhaw Enterprise.)

Mr. Henry Nisbet, carrier on Waxhaw No. 2, yesterday sold \$1,000 War Savings Stamps to Mrs. Maggie Ross.