

The Mount Airy News.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

IS READY TO BUILD STATE ROAD SYSTEM

Mr. Page Says Work of Surveying 5,500 Miles Progressing at High Rate

Raleigh, March 17.—When the state highway commission meets April 1st for the induction of seven new members, Chairman Frank Page will lay before them complete plans for the organization of the state maintenance department authorized under the Deighton-Connor-Bowie bill, a complete survey of the 5,500 miles of road embraced in the state system, and complete engineer plans for the construction of approximately 10 per cent of that mileage under contract or in readiness for the letting of contracts.

Hardly was the ink dry on the new road measure enacted by the general assembly which adjourned a week ago before Chairman Page had ten parties of engineers in the field making the survey of the state system preliminary to taking them over by the commission. This work is progressing at the rate of about 250 miles per day and it is expected that it will be fully completed when the initial session of the commission is called.

Work on 1,267 Miles by Summer

In readiness to be let at any time are projects aggregating 190 miles, and surveys have been completed for 340 miles additional. The detail of office work necessary to get the latter in readiness to be submitted to contractors is being done rapidly, and before the beginning of summer, Mr. Page expects to have under contract and construction a total of 1,267 miles of roads, and several hundred thousand dollars worth of bridges. The total includes 728 miles of road now under contract or under construction.

Under the new road act, the new commission is to be called together by the governor not later than April 1, and the additional members authorized installed in office. Afterward the commission will meet at the call of the chairman. Mr. Page expects to be ready to lay before the commission full details of the present status of the work, and plans for its expansion and continuance. The call for the meeting has not yet been issued by the governor, but is expected to be forthcoming within the next few days.

Maintenance Big Question

The most important single matter for consideration at the forthcoming meeting is the adoption of a system for the maintenance of the roads taken over by the state. Mr. Page is at work on several proposals, but has not yet determined which of them will best serve the purpose in view. The details of organization will be held in abeyance until after the full meeting of the commission has discussed them fully. A maintenance department will probably be established under the direction of the chairman.

Complete mapping of the system of roads is now in process by the engineering staff of the commission. The state is being covered by counties, and a separate map made of each county. These will be kept on record in the office of the commission, and copies forwarded to the board of commissioners in each county to be posted for public inspection, in accordance with the provisions of the act, to enable the people of the counties to file petitions for changes in the routine of the roads, if they are dissatisfied with the routine of the commission engineers.

Conditions Much Better

Road building can be done now under very much more favorable conditions and circumstances, Mr. Page declared yesterday. The cost of standard width concrete road has fallen from \$45,000 to \$30,000 per mile, materials are cheaper and more plentiful and there is an abundant supply of labor to be had. Every available resource that can economically be used will be called into service for hard surface construction.

Acting under the authority conferred in an act of the general assembly, Mr. Page will within the next few days begin the addition of three stories to the state warehouse building on the east Morgan street to be used exclusively by the commission for housing its administrative staff. The quarters in the Commercial Bank building, already overcrowded, are much too small to accommodate the additional force necessitated by the expansion of the commission's work. The building will be completed within 90 days.

The headquarters of the mechanical division of the commission, where a fleet of 500 motor trucks and other

road machinery is maintained, is nearing completion four miles out on the Cary highway, and Frank Page's "truck patch" will be moved there before the middle of April. More than three million dollars worth of equipment will be kept in working condition there, with George Farmer as mechanical supervisor of this work.

SERIOUS SITUATIONS IN BRITISH INDUSTRY

Far-Reaching Results to Losses in Coal Trade—Unemployment Increases.

London, England.—So far from any sign of general recovery in British trade having yet appeared, the situation is growing worse in several important industries. Latest unemployment returns, issued by the Ministry of Labor, show that there are 1,315,200 persons on the list registers of the employment exchanges in the kingdom, an increase of 60,523 over the previous week. The figures are exclusive of short-time claimants, who number about 721,800.

In the Bristol boot trade, which has an important place in the city, several firms are closing their factories indefinitely. As short time has been worked, there is already much distress and arrangements are being made to feed children. Distress is also increasing in South Wales, and this is explained by figures, just published, showing the state of the coal trade there during February. The output fell from 3,166,000 tons in January, to 2,689,000 tons.

In the cotton trade, manufacturers have decided that short-time working cannot be modified. Spinners of American cotton are working only 24 hours per week, and of Egyptian, four days per week. In the weaving section conditions are worse, and many more operatives are totally unemployed. The number receiving whole or part-time unemployment benefit is 200,000.

A representative of the Russian trade delegation is in Cardiff discussing with the Lord Mayor and commercial men the possibilities of reviving trade. Little relief in this direction is likely at present, however, and the same applies to wool and cotton textiles, because two other cases of attachment of Russian goods have to be decided in the courts before any interchange of commodities between Great Britain and Russia can begin.

Upper Silesia Will Remain With Germany

A Berlin cablegram says: Germany won an overwhelming victory in the plebiscite held yesterday to determine the future national status of that region, according to official returns received here. The count, with only two districts missing, showed that 876,000 votes had been cast for Germany only 389,000 for Poland.

Palm Sunday, the day of the voting in Upper Silesia, seems likely to go down in history as one of the most momentous days in the adjustment of European boundaries growing out of the recent war. The day had been looked forward to with intense interest by all Germany and Poland as well, while evidence of world-wide attention upon the balloting were not lacking in advices coming from abroad.

The area involved, comprising some 5,000 square miles, was the largest section of territory to have its fate submitted to a plebiscite under the peace treaty, but even more important than the size of the district was the material wealth contained in its various mineral resources, mainly coal, but also including iron, zinc and lead.

A notable feature of the plebiscite was the influx of both Germans and Poles, former residents of the district, who were entitled to cast their ballots. It is not known here how large a number of Poles were thus enabled to vote at yesterday's election, but it is estimated that not less than 140,000 Germans entered Upper Silesia for the casting of their ballots, special trains for them being provided by the German government.

Allied troops sent to the district were distributed throughout the area at suitable points to insure order and the proper conduct of the balloting.

\$100 Reward, \$100
Cataract is a local disease greatly influenced by constitutional conditions. It therefore requires constitutional treatment. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is taken internally and acts through the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE restores the foundation of the disease, gives the patient strength by improving the general health and assists nature in doing its work. \$100.00 for any case of CATARRH that HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE fails to cure.
Druggists Co. Testimonials free.
P. J. Cheser & Co., Toledo, O.

CARDINAL GIBBONS PASSES AWAY AT AGE OF 87

Distinguished Catholic Prelate Had been in Failing Health for Past Six Months—Had Long Been Prominent Figure in American Public Life.

Baltimore, Md., March 24.—James Cardinal Gibbons, archbishop of Baltimore, and primate of the American Catholic hierarchy, died at the archiepiscopal residence here today after a prolonged illness, which mainly affected his heart. He was in his 87th year.

The end came peacefully at 11:33 o'clock.

Cardinal Gibbons, who has been showing pronounced signs of improvement in health ever since his return home about January 1 last from Union Mills, Md., where he was taken seriously ill earlier in December, suffered a relapse Palm Sunday soon after returning from an automobile ride. The sudden change of weather had a depressing effect upon him. His fainting spells returned and when he was put to bed from which, it was realized by those closest to him he probably never again would arise.

Cardinal Gibbons' physicians said repeatedly in the earlier stages of his illness that he was sound, organically, as could be expected in a person of his years, but that he suffered from the effects of his age and from fatigue that resulted from the prodigious expenditure of his energies in the performance of his duties as senior prelate of the Catholic church in this country.

Although not of robust build, the cardinal enjoyed remarkably good health and his close associates often marvelled at his capacity for work, his tireless industry and recuperative powers. But about six months ago a change began to be noticeable. He grew thinner, became less active in his movements, and other signs indicative of a breaking up appeared. As one of his household expressed it, "the eminence seemed to grow old suddenly."

Nevertheless the cardinal continued his daily routine, interrupted only by visits away from home to church functions, the most notable of these being the Pan-American mass at Washington on Thanksgiving day. He was suffering from a cold, but apparently felt no ill effects from the trip and a short time afterwards went to Emmetsburg, Md., to participate in a religious celebration, where he again exhibited symptoms of weakness. Then, in pursuance of a plan for rest, the cardinal went to the home of his life-long friends, the Shivers, at Union Mills, Carroll county, where he had spent many of his holidays, particularly his birthdays.

Instead of staying there only a few days as he had originally intended, it was a full month before his medical advisers deemed it prudent to permit the journey home. Twice during his stay at Union Mills, he collapsed and so grave was the crisis that the last sacraments were administered during the first spell.

The attacks of weakness which brought realization to the cardinal's household that he was dying began with cold. While preaching at Havre de Grace on Sunday, last November 6, after having confirmed 150 children, he suddenly became faint, but was able to continue his discourse in a few moments. These seizures became more frequent as time went on and usually followed some overexertion in the line of his diocesan duties.

The cardinal's mental faculties were no wise impaired by his physical infirmities; on the contrary, his mind seemed to become keener as his body grew weaker. He realized that his end was approaching and prepared for it fearlessly.

Beside the cardinal's bed stood every member of his household, and when it was seen that the distinguished prelate had passed away the priests fell to their knees and began reciting the prayers for the dead.

As it is expected that most of the church dignitaries in the United States will attend, it is probable that the funeral will not take place much inside of a week.

A mass meeting of women voters attended by 200 women in Durham recently showing that they intend to have a hand in the home affairs at the coming election. Miss Louise Alexander, attorney of Greensboro, was present and spoke to the women about the government of a city along business principles rather than along political lines. The duty of registration and voting was urged on the women.

FARM MACHINERY PRICES REDUCED

Refusal of Farmers to Buy at Advanced Figures and Conferences With Manufacturers Brings Cuts of 5 to 20 Per Cent.

Chicago, Ill.—As a result of the refusal of farmers to buy agricultural implements and machinery at advanced prices, and the consultations held with manufacturers by officials of the American Farm Bureau Federation, cuts in prices of between 5 and 20 per cent are being announced. According to a statement by the federation, some 20 manufacturers have reduced their prices, whereas at the beginning of the year they claimed that prices had to go up and stay up.

Answering the complaint of the implement manufacturers that the price of their wares was advanced during the war period at the same rate as agricultural products, Ewin Etflie, member of the executive committee of the Illinois Agricultural Association, offers the following comparison:

"Ten years ago, when corn was selling for 50 cents a bushel, it took 150 bushels to buy a wagon. Until the implement price cuts of a few days ago, it took 268 bushels to buy the same wagon, with corn at the same price."

According to the statement by the American Farm Bureau Federation the International Harvester Company has made reductions of 15 per cent on plows, seeding machines, wagons, and miscellaneous tools; \$100 on threshers and combines, from \$160 to \$350 on tractors, and from \$10 to \$25 on gasoline engines; J. I. Case Plow Works Company, approximately 15 per cent on all its lines; Emerson-Brantingham Company, 15 per cent on wagons and gears, vehicles, tractor plows, hay presses, grain drills, and gas engines, from \$150 to \$155 on tractors; Bates Machine and Tractor Company, \$225 on its tractor; Vulcan Plow Company, 20 per cent on plows, with the exception of tractor plows and pulverizers; Sampson Tractor Company, 20 per cent on tractors and 10 per cent on tractor drills and tractor discs.

"It is stated," continues the federation's announcement, "that the new contracts with the American Seeding Machine Company on certain lines have been renewed at 10 per cent decline under the price list of March, 1920; the Ford tractor people announce a cut of \$165; the first twine quotations of the season were issued by the Wisconsin state prison. The prices represent a reduction of 1 1/2 cents on standard and 2 1/4 on 600-foot twine."

\$50,000 Worth of Bonds Are Found By Farmer

Danville, Va., March 23.—Another echo of the robbery of the bank of Halifax at Houston reached here early this afternoon, when long distance telephone advices received from Gretna in this county brought word that W. W. Edmunds, a farmer, had discovered negotiable paper worth \$50,000 stolen from the bank, secreted under a straw stack. A good deal of other commercial paper worthless to anyone save the bank was also found. This cache was found about five miles from where about three months ago another farmer named Lampkins found a steel box containing many thousand dollars worth of loot, also taken from the Halifax bank, which was blown by yeggmen, one of whom was captured not long since, tried and sentenced.

The farmer was removing straw from the stack this morning when his pitchfork revealed a large pile of paper. He lost no time in discovering where it had come from because of the name of the bank being on some of the paper. Edmunds guarded the find until he had sent another man to a telephone. He called the People's Bank of Elba and F. Q. Smith, the cashier, hastened to the spot, about nine miles from Gretna and lost no time in making full identification. The loot included: Registered liberty bonds \$18,450; bonds in South Boston Power company, \$23,000; real estate bonds and coupons, \$3,000; 50 certificates of oil and bank stock and various enterprizes, 46 wills, liberty bond coupons, total value \$300; three bushels of private papers such as deeds of trusts, notes and checks.

As soon as the loot had been identified word was sent to Houston and representatives of the bank went to Gretna this afternoon and claimed the paper after identifying it. The find means much to the bank, which after the robbery, made good all losses to its customers.

UNION EVANGELISTIC MEETING

Rev. Thurston B. Price Will Preach At Banner Warehouse—Five Churches Will Unite In The Service—Stent Meeting Beginning April 17.

Representatives of five of our churches met at Central Methodist church to plan for a series of evangelistic services to be held at Banner warehouse beginning April 17th.

A. V. West was unanimously elected chairman of the executive committee, those composing the committee are Central Methodist, B. F. Sparger, W. M. Jordan, E. C. Foy; Friends, W. R. Saunders, S. E. Marshall, W. S. Gentry; First Baptist, J. W. Lovill, A. G. Webb, A. V. West; First Presbyterian, W. F. Carter, Dr. C. A. Baird, D. E. Hoffman, Tabernacle Methodist, J. B. Jarrell, J. W. Barker, J. W. Badgett.

The pastors of the five churches will serve as ex-officio members of all committees. A. G. Webb was elected to the office of treasurer. The publicity committee is composed of J. H. Carter, Rev. J. R. Booth and Miss Earp. E. C. Foy, C. B. Tilley, C. W. Williams, G. C. Welch and John Sobotta compose a committee to look after seating, lighting, heating, if necessary building a platform in the warehouse and everything else necessary to make the place comfortable and convenient for the large crowds that are expected to attend.

C. C. Creveling, J. W. Badgett and Misses Kate Spough, Nellie Saunders and Anna Reece compose the music committee.

Four ushers from each church making twenty in all have been appointed, these will be announced later as well as a cottage prayer meeting committee which will plan for four cottage prayer meetings to be held each Tuesday and Friday of the two weeks prior to the opening service.

Asphalt Thrown Up In Gulf of Mexico

Velasco, Texas.—Fishermen returning from Quintana Beach yesterday reported the arrival upon the coast of thousands of tons of fresh asphalt, borne upon the waves of the gulf. Blanket-like strips of 25 to 50 feet in length and varying in thickness up to several feet have been cast up along several miles of the beach. The temperature of the asphalt indicated its origin was close to the coast. The surmise has been advanced that the asphalt originated from some section of the bottom of the gulf through an earth disturbance causing emissions from an underlying deposit.

Obituary

Elder C. B. Denny was born January 23, 1846, died January 21 and was buried on the 23rd, his 75th birthday. He served in the Civil war about six months. Served one term in the Legislature, was a member of Ararat Primitive Baptist church, was highly esteemed as a gospel minister, believing that every person has the right to worship God according to his own conscience. He was firm in his convictions as to what he believed to be right, but as gentle as the morning dew in his criticism of those who did not agree with him.

Truly a great man in Israel has fallen. But the memory of his life will live in the minds of those who knew him because he was a devoted father, a loving husband, a true friend and a most worthy christian gentleman.

Notice of Election

Be it ordered and ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Airy:

1. That an election be held on the first Monday in May, it being the 2nd day of May, 1921, for the election of a Mayor and Aldermen for the 1st and 2nd Wards of the Town of Mount Airy, and an Alderman at large.
2. That J. E. Monday be and is hereby appointed Registrar for the Ward No. 1, and that Martin Bennett and C. D. Jarvis be and they are hereby appointed Judges of election for Ward No. 1; that B. Y. Graves be and is hereby appointed Registrar for Ward No. 2 and that N. C. Marion and Mal Davis be and they are hereby appointed Judges of election for Ward No. 2. That at such election there shall be voted for a Mayor, Commissioner at large and two Commissioners for the 1st 2nd Wards.
3. That the registration books be opened on the 2nd day of April, 1921, and remain open until the 23rd day of April, 1921 for the registration of new voters.

By order of the Board of Commissioners, this the 8th day of March, 1921.

E. C. BIVENS, Mayor.
Attest: F. M. POORE, Sec. & Treas.

DEBS CONFERS WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL

Socialist Prisoner Permitted to Go to Washington Alone to Confer About Pardon From Harding.

Washington, March 25.—Unattended and without the knowledge of the public, Eugene Debs, imprisoned Socialist leader, came to Washington yesterday from Atlanta penitentiary and for three hours discussed his case with Attorney General Daugherty. The unprecedented trip of Mr. Debs was made with the approval of President Harding, who recently requested Mr. Daugherty to review the case of the Socialist leader and make a recommendation on it.

The attorney general in announcing late yesterday that Debs had visited Washington and was on his way back to the Atlanta penitentiary, said that while there was no precedent for calling a prisoner to Washington without a guard, it had been decided in conference with President Harding that inasmuch as Debs had defended himself at his trial he should come here to answer in person such inquiries as the government desired to ask. Mr. Daugherty added that he believed he had the authority to place the prisoner on his honor and that he had assumed full responsibility.

Debs arrived in Washington early in the day, went to the department of justice about 9:45 o'clock, conferred with Mr. Daugherty and Guy D. Goff, assistant to the attorney general, from about 10:30 to 1:30 o'clock, and left Washington at 3:30 o'clock on the return trip to prison. His movements from the time he left Atlanta, Wednesday were kept strictly secret except to a few officials of the department of justice. For that reason newspaper men who gathered late in the day for the attorney general's weekly conference, gasped and refused for a minute or two to believe their ears when they heard Mr. Daugherty say: "I don't believe I have much news for you, gentlemen, but regarding Debs' visit I have had a statement prepared."

With a brief explanation Mr. Daugherty gave out the following statement: "In connection with the investigation of the Debs case and after conference with the President and with his approval, I had Debs come here for the purpose of making certain inquiries of him. He has returned to Atlanta. I have asked him to refrain from saying anything for publication or otherwise regarding the subject of the inquiries made. I am sure no well meaning persons will urge him to discuss this matter or anything that took place on his journey or during his stay here. Debs presented his own case to the trial court and jury. He was permitted to do so here. The Debs case, as I have said before, stands alone. I could not of course, go to him. What took place and the information I have acquired will be reported in due time only to the President, and that in connection with any recommendations that may be made when the investigation is concluded. Debs came here without guard and so returned to Atlanta. Colonel Guy D. Goff, assistant to the attorney general was present during the conference."

More Murders in Ireland

Cork, Ireland, March 19.—Seven soldiers and policemen were killed and wounded and seven members of the attacking party were killed in the ambush of military and police near Kinsale early today, according to the latest reports received here. The fatalities to the crown forces were caused by the blowing up of a bridge while three lorries were crossing it.

Twenty seven felons were captured, of whom seven were wounded, and the military took a large quantity of ammunition. A reign of terror prevails in county Cork and the crown forces are reported to have burned farm houses and produce in reprisal for the ambush. Search for the members of the ambushing party, who escaped, is being continued.

500 Employes Strike Durham Hosiery Mills

Durham, March 23.—Following announcement yesterday by the Durham Hosiery Mills of a 12 1/2 per cent reduction in the wages of its more than 3,000 employes, approximately 500 employes in the local plant went on strike this morning.

The management of the mills stated today that there was a mutual understanding between the mills and the workers who walked out that the company would re-employ them if they found they could not obtain higher wages elsewhere.