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Co-ops Plan to Sign Up 65 Per Cent of Land Owners

Growers Themselves Have Charge of Danville Meeting and Complete Harmony Prevails. 43 Counties Represented.

Danville, Va., Nov. 28.—Co-operative marketing of tobacco will continue on a growing scale in the old bright belt of Virginia and North Carolina for the five years following the expiration of the present contract of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative association, according to the contract adopted by the meeting of more than 600 farmers, representing the cream of the tobacco growing industry, who came today from 43 counties of North Carolina and Virginia and packed the Masonic temple here.

The new contract, which was ratified by the representatives of 43 tobacco growing counties, today calls for absolute control of all tobacco grown upon the lands of signers by the association. It calls for a 65 per cent sign-up of all the tobacco growers in the old belt of Virginia and North Carolina, and in case of failure to attain the 65 per cent quota, it allows a withdrawal privilege to all signers and a complete dissolution of the association in case the withdrawals bring the percentage of the association's holdings to less than 50 per cent.

Growers Are Determined

Growers here today evidenced strong determination not to form another association in which split crops and loop holes for contract breakers would allow outsiders and defaulting members to gain the higher prices which have been made upon the open markets due, it is claimed by co-operative members, to the orderly marketing of a minority of the landowning tobacco farmers of North Carolina and Virginia.

Although following the lead of the dark tobacco growers of Virginia and bright tobacco growers of South Carolina calling for a 65 per cent contract which absolutely binds all landowning members to deliver their entire crop to the association, the old belt farmers, while forming a separate organization, today made provision for federation with the other groups of growers at such time as shall be deemed wise.

Today's meeting was entirely in the hands of the grower members without any active participation of the part of the present directors of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative association. Charles R. Warren, representative in the Virginia legislature from Pittsylvania county, was elected chairman of the meeting and presided during the six hour session in which the Virginia and Carolina members of the tobacco association carried their business to a successful conclusion without stopping for food or rest.

Secretary Wilson Heard

Secretary Wilson, of the association, was called upon to state the purpose of the meeting shortly after its opening and reminded the 600 growers present that today's gathering was in response to the call issued at a similar belt meeting of the tobacco growers of the old bright belt on October 2, stating that each director district of the association would send three delegates to formulate a contract for the next term of five years following the expiration of the present association's marketing contract.

The large delegations which were here today, representing every important tobacco growing county of the old tobacco belt gave a representative tone to the meeting.

Secretary Wilson, in rehearsing the steps which led to today's meeting, declared "you gentlemen have the biggest responsibility and trust placed upon you that any group ever had in this section of Virginia and North Carolina." Richard R. Patterson, general manager of the association, was called upon by the delegates and reminded them that with an average of only approximately 25 per cent of the tobacco raised in three states, passing through their organization during the past three years, they had materially benefited themselves and their industry and assured the growers present that with a much larger percentage they could look for better prices, more rapid sales and quicker returns in the form of cash payments.

Complete Harmony Prevails

Complete harmony, understanding and good will marked the six-hour

session in which a vast amount of business was accounted for. An organization committee, from a majority of the old belt counties was elected at the close of today's meeting and upon them rest the determination of the date when the campaign for signers to the next five year contract shall begin.

WOMEN ROB BANK TO SECURE FUNDS

Disabled War Veteran's Condition Leads Mother and Sister to Hold Up Bank Cashier

Sioux Falls, S. D., Nov. 28.—Jail cells tonight housed South Dakota's first women bank robbers—a mother of 40 years and her 19-year-old daughter.

"Both Mrs. Catherine Rogers and her daughter, Zera, confessed that need of money prompted them to rob the Renner State Bank yesterday and take \$390. Officers took them in custody today at their home just east of town, where they live with their husband and father, a disabled World War veteran.

"You'll do anything for love and when your loved ones are in trouble," Mrs. Rogers told officers upon arraignment. Their case was continued until next Tuesday.

Bond was placed at \$5,000 each, but unable to raise that amount on security for it, they went to jail.

"I can't see why they should be turned loose," said State's Attorney J. D. Coon, when questioned as to the probability of leniency, in view of the condition of their husband and father, R. E. Rogers.

Rogers is drawing \$50 a month from the veterans bureau. He is suffering from shell shock received when he was with a hospital unit during the battle of the Argonne. The veterans bureau has arranged for a bed in a hospital here for Rogers and the American legion is working to provide relief for him.

A trail of pennies, part of their loot led detectives to the Rogers home where they found the mother, dressed in male attire. Nearby was the daughter.

Confronted with the information that she had changed 700 pennies to larger coins at a Sioux Falls department store, Mrs. Rogers confessed that she and her daughter committed the robbery.

The robbery was planned Thanksgiving day, the daughter said, then asking why she had taken part in it, she said:

"I did it because my mother wanted me to."

Mrs. Rogers told the police that "it was just luck that we picked the Renner bank." They drove around, she said, and had planned to hold up the first bank they came to, which had no customers in it.

Thus it was that the Renner bank was selected, for the cashier, H. S. Wilkenson, was alone when the women entered and help him up at the point of a pistol in the hands of the elder woman.

"Neither I nor Zera were the least bit nervous during the hold-up," Mrs. Rogers said, "but thinking about the robbery before hand made us lose our appetites and we could hardly sleep at night."

"But we needed money right away, and determined to go through with it. I know I threatened that man in the Renner bank but of course I wouldn't have killed him."

In their cells tonight the woman appeared unconcerned as to what punishment might await them, nor did they express any regrets over their deed. Neither did they see anything unusual in the fact that women had robbed a bank.

Hanging and Electrocution Are Both Legal in Kentucky

Frankfort, Nov. 30.—Kentucky is unique in having two forms of death punishment, hanging and electrocution. Hanging is for crimes against women; electrocution for murder.

The 1920 legislature passed the hanging law. A Lexington hanging recently was the first one under the act which brought back the discarded gallows, which Clerk Goodman, of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, said has deterred unlawful commissions pronounced.

TWO MILLIONS IN CONTRACTS BE LET DEC. 8

Adequate Finances Assured for Many More Months of Road Building at Present Pace
Raleigh, Nov. 28.—Two million dollars worth of highway contracts scheduled for letting December 8 will bring the state's total investment in new highway construction begun during 1925 to approximately \$20,000,000 setting a notable pace for the first 12 months of an administration that is majoring in both economy and progress.

Figures obtained from the state highway commission today list the mileage involved in the investment at 650, of which 425 is hard-surfaced construction, and December 8 letting will add 80 miles, 60 of them asphalt or concrete.

Chowan Bridge

On December 22, the commission will let contract for the Chowan river bridge, a mammoth structure that is to connect Bertie and Chowan counties and reclaim for North Carolina territory, a half dozen northeastern counties which have been heretofore "Virginia cities." The last legislature authorized a half million dollars for the construction of the bridge, the amount to be refunded from toll charges.

The commission's figures on the cost of the year's new projects presents a record that stacks up with the big construction periods inaugurated with the first \$50,000,000 highway bond issues. Actual mileage completed in 1925, officials estimated, may run above 1,000 miles and exceed any twelve months period. Actual figures on completed mileage or the cost, are not yet available, pending the annual check up at the end of the period.

Work to Continue

Adequate finances for the continuance of the present rate of construction through many more months have been assured through highway bond issues of the legislature, county loans and federal aid. Highway Chairman Frank Page reported to Governor McLean some months ago that road building during the first two years of the McLean administration would exceed construction figures for any other like period. The governor is enthusiastically behind the program and it will receive further boosting during his tenure in office.

The projects to be let to contract December 8 are located in nine counties. Cumberland will get 12 miles; Wake seven miles; Davidson 12; Rockingham seven; Richmond nine; Alexander nine; Stokes 12; Jackson 12, and Swain six.

BOY, 15, MUST PAY DEATH PENALTY

Fired Seven Bullets into Body of Grandmother to Steal \$100

Philadelphia, Nov. 23.—The State Supreme Court today upheld the first-degree conviction of William Cavalier, the fifteen year old boy sentenced to death by the Schuylkill County Court at Pottsville for killing his grandmother.

Cavalier is believed to be the youngest person ever sentenced to death in Pennsylvania. His grandmother, Mrs. Catherine Cavalier, of Mechanicville, near Pottsville, was sixty-eight. She disappeared on Sept. 5, 1924. Young Cavalier told his grandfather she had gone to Florida.

A few hours later her body with seven bullets in it was found hidden in the house and Cavalier admitted he killed her for the purpose of robbery. More than \$100 in cash taken from Mrs. Cavalier was found in the boy's possession.

Cavalier had been cared for by his grandparents ever since he was eight months old when his father and mother separated.

The boy was convicted of the murder on Jan. 11. A motion for a new trial was denied by the Schuylkill County Court, and an application for a board of inquiry to examine the mental condition of the boy was refused by Judge Kock and sustained by the State Supreme Court. He was sentenced to death on May 15 by Judge Kock.

During his trial and in subsequent proceedings the boy maintained an air of indifference as to his fate and joked about the "hot seat" in referring to the electric chair.

With today's affirmation of the conviction, the boy's last hope appears to be the State Board of Pardons.

STORMS AND COLD WAVE TAKE HEAVY TOLL IN EUROPE

Loss of Life and Property in Italy As a Result of Huge Tidal Waves—Severe Gales Rage Off Coast of France

New York, Nov. 29.—Gales, tidal waves and cold of unprecedented severity are reported from many European centers. The Southern Italian coast has been swept by tidal waves, and several towns in Calabria have been devastated or inundated by the force of the waters. Sicily also suffered from the terrific storm which has raged for many hours.

Many parts of France are snow-bound. The coast of Brittany felt the full fury of the recent gales, with the loss of numerous fishing boats and men. Mediterranean shipping is crippled, and liners are tied up in part along the French Atlantic seaboard.

Severe Cold

Much snow has fallen in Central France and with it has come a marked drop in temperature.

In Spain the cold has not even spared the sunny South, famous for its mild winter climate and tropical vegetation. Madrid is experiencing the coldest weather of the year. Several shipwrecks have occurred and lighthouses have been damaged, rendering conditions still more dangerous for shipping.

The British Isles have not escaped the unusual wintry condition, for even in London snow has fallen, and in many places it lies several inches deep, with lakes and streams covered with ice.

The wrecks of fishing vessels were being cast upon the beaches and the toll of life will be considerable. As an indication of the cold, it was necessary to cancel the Manchester racing meet Saturday.

The storms in Portugal took the form of torrential rains. Hundreds of houses in Lisbon and several railway lines were washed out, and the property damage to the capital and the surrounding district was very heavy.

TIDAL WAVE CAUSE OF HEAVY LOSS IN ITALY

Naples, Italy, Nov. 28.—A tidal wave sweeping in during a terrific storm has devastated town of Bagnara, in Calabria, near the Strait of Messina. The nearby port of Monteleone Di Calabria also suffered heavily. No estimate of casualties is available.

The population of both these towns fled in terror from their homes. Houses were torn from their foundations by a deluge caused by rain and incoming sea waters. Waves of great heights are reported. A few tugs are known to have been sunk. Bagnara has a population of about 7,500 and Monteleone about 10,000. The storm was general along the southwestern Italian coast and Northern Sicily. Many ports of the countryside suffered heavy damage.

The greatest force of the storm was felt in Sicily and the province of Calabria. Many persons are known to have been injured and scores of homes damaged. Communications were disrupted, railway tracks being washed out and telegraph and telephone lines broken.

The storm also was heavy at sea, where disasters are feared, although none has been reported. Three steamships were damaged, but succeeded in reaching port safely.

Three men are reported to have been drowned near Salerno, 30 miles southeast of Naples.

Severe damage is reported from the Sicilian ports of Messina, Trapani, Catania and Milano.

Twenty-Year Monopoly Given in Match Business in Peru

New York, Nov. 29.—After negotiations of more than a year the International Match corporation and the Swedish Match company announced today that they had signed a contract with the Peruvian government for a 20 year match monopoly in that country. A new company, controlled by the Swedish-American group, will be formed for the exclusive manufacture, importation and sale of matches. Approximately \$1,000,000 annually will be paid for the concession.

Ankle lamps are the latest fashion for smart Parisian women. The light lens is flashed on and off at will as an almost invisible wire runs upward, usually terminating in the wearer's handbag.

EXPECTING OTTO WOOD WILL BE REVENGEFUL

His Wife Secured Divorce and Married Again and New Husband Has Been Warned

Greensboro, Nov. 29.—The strain is becoming terrific of waiting for Otto Wood, slayer of A. W. Kaplan, of this city, to turn up somewhere and give state prison authorities, who want him for escaping from the state prison at Raleigh, a chance to capture him or get shot.

Various rumors are afloat, but Wood is the type who need not be expected until he is seen coming. The old say, "You'll know to expect me when you see me coming," applies to Wood.

It is reported that the husband of Wood's former wife has been warned to be on the lookout, the theory being that Wood would take a shot at the man if seen. Wood's wife is reported to have secured a divorce and married again, the couple living for a while in Winston-Salem, then moving into Caswell county, near Pelham, 15 miles from Reidsville. Wood and his wife had a little girl.

Wood is reported to have breathed threats of vengeance against some Hebrews here, because they testified against him in the trial of the man at the December, 1923, term of Guilford Superior court for the killing of Kaplan.

The man was captured after the killing of Kaplan because he went to Mercer county, W. Va., to see some relatives, being taken in the home of a relative. When he escaped from the state prison in May, 1924, he went to Winston-Salem and secured his wife and child and went on to Roanoke, Va., where he was again taken. It is likely that officers who are attracted by the reward for Wood are looking for him to show up again at the home of some relative, but, since his wife married again he hasn't as many relatives.

Wood was born and reared in the Ronda section of Wilkes county, in country traversed by what is now the Boone trail. His people are said to have been good, law abiding people, but he turned out to be the black sheep of the family.

MRS. JOHNSON FAVORS BAN ON BLUNDERBUSS

Would Trail Fleeing Prisoners With Bloodhounds Instead of Shooting Them

Raleigh, Nov. 28.—Bloodhounds for fleeing prisoners and a ban on the blunderbuss and rifle are Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson's substitute for the senseless shooting of misdemeanants on county chain gangs.

Mrs. Johnson returned today from Albemarle where she went earlier in the week at the invitation of Solicitor Don Phillips, who will prosecute N. C. Cranford, the Stanley road superintendent who is under indictment for the killing of prisoners who worked under him on the Stanley road force. The state commissioner of public welfare is entirely pleased with the progress made in a county in which there has been a great controversy over the treatment of prisoners. Solicitor Phillips desired help from the welfare office in getting the proper sort of testimony before the grand jury. Mrs. Johnson and her assistants worked under his direction.

Recently in Wake county, a 19-year-old brat shot and killed a negro misdemeanant who had been serving 30 days for a slight offense and had nearly finished his term. There was nothing under the law to do with such a case, since the brat had every reason to think that shooting was the proper thing. The authorities found nothing against him and there was a small tendency to glorify the gunman.

There have been many of these killings, Mrs. Johnson observes. She thinks that bloodhounds set on the trail of a fleeing prisoner would be about as effective as buckshot and far more humane. The average misdemeanant, not to mention the long termer, does not care to be chewed up by a dog. Besides, the dog generally would show more intelligence than the brat guardman who is too lazy to run after his man. The dog dotes on running.

Mrs. Johnson feels that the welfare department which made the original fight on Cranford has scored a victory, whatever happens to Cranford before the jury. It had been previously impossible to bounce him. There will be no difficulty now. Stanley is close politically. The rulers will hardly risk another tenure for him.

LA FOLLETTE TO TAKE HIS SEAT AT AGE 30

He Will Be the Fifth Youngest Man to Sit in the United States Senate

Washington, Nov. 30.—Robert M. La Follette, of Wisconsin, who at the next session will take the place in the senate so long held by his father, will be the fifth youngest man ever to sit in that body and the first under 31 years of age to hold a seat there in more than half a century.

When he takes the oath of office at the opening of the session on December 7, he will be aged 30 years, 10 months and one day, having been born on February 6, 1895. The constitution provides that no person under 30 years of age may qualify as a United States senator.

Search of the musty records at the capitol discloses, however, that despite this constitutional inhibition all of the senators younger than Mr. La Follette took the oath before they had reached the age of 30 and that their presence as members was not seriously questioned.

When Henry Clay presented himself for the oath for the first time on Nov. 19, 1806, at the age of 29 years, 7 months and 7 days, some senator inquired as to his age.

"I hope my colleague will propound that question to my constituents," Clay replied, and there the matter dropped.

Three others even younger than Clay qualified. They were Armistead Thomson Mason, of Virginia, aged 25 years 5 months and 30 days when he took his seat on January 3, 1816; Elias Kent Kane, of Illinois, aged 23 years, 8 months and 28 days when he was sworn in on March 4, 1825, and Stephen Wallace Dorsey, of Arkansas, who was sworn in on March 4, 1873, at the age of 29 years and seven days.

PROHIBITION AGENTS WARNED BY MEEKINS

Tells Them They Must Stop Shooting at Supposed Liquor Law Violators

Raleigh, Nov. 30.—Judge Isaac M. Meekins this morning told federal officers that they must stop shooting at persons supposed to be prohibition violators.

The judge declared it a violation of the law to shoot at them when they flee and it is, he said, a dangerous thing to shoot into the air to frighten them. The judge cautioned the officers against assuming that violation of the prohibition act is a capital felony. It is against the law, he said, but it is not the worst crime.

He told the officers who had testified that they shot to stop Peyton Edwards in Halifax, that if a man is treated that way he has reason to think that he is being attacked and he can fight back. The judge was not right sure that a legal and moral defense could not be made.

Judge Meekins discommends the practice of federal officers in persuading others to violate the law in order to make a case. He declared that when he is convinced of such methods used in getting evidence he will discharge the defendant. Mrs. Fannie Brem, a widow with nine children, testified that one Ben Faulkner, who has been getting up such evidence, pretended to be sick and going fishing. He asked her for a pint and she gave the fellow the liquor that her husband had before he died. Faulkner, from her testimony, must have needed the liquor. She said he drank nearly all of it.

Mystery Surrounds Greensboro Killing

Greensboro, Nov. 28.—Mystery surrounds the death of Charles Snyder, aged 28, who early this morning was cut in two by a freight train. It was said by two young men just after his death that he crossed the Southern railroad tracks at a street here and was knocked back on the track by an automobile and run over by the locomotive of a freight train.

However, tonight the coroner's jury declared that the man was hit over the head with some blunt instrument and thrown under the train by an unknown person or persons.

The two men, who said they were companions of Snyder, named C. O. Parrish and W. M. Butler, were released.

The Cologne Cathedral, started in 1248 and not completed until 1880, carries the legend that the original architect sold his soul to the Devil and haunted the edifice until it was completed.