

Weather.

Washington, April 17—Forecast for North Carolina for tonight and Sunday: Fair tonight; warmer in central and southeast portions.

The Evening Times

SECOND EDITION

ESTABLISHED 1876.

SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1909.

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PRICE 5 CENTS

WILSON ISSUES STATEMENT ON WHEAT MATTER

Statement From the Department of Agriculture in Nature of Reply

THE AMOUNT PRODUCED

The Amount of Wheat Produced in 1908, According to the Department, Was Greater Than for the Previous Year, Therefore the Scarcity of Wheat is Not the Cause of the Present High Prices—Estimates of the Department Are Reliable, Says the Statement, Mr. Patten to the Contrary Notwithstanding.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, April 17—The department of agriculture today issued a lengthy statement bearing on the Patten situation in Chicago. It follows:

"The department of agriculture has estimated the amount of wheat on farms March 1, 1909, to be about 143,000,000 bushels, or 21 1/2 percent of the amount produced in the country last year, 1908.

"Analysis of the wheat movement after March 1st in past years indicates that the yearly estimates of the percentage of crop on farms March 1 has been about five percent below the actual percentage.

"The amount of wheat produced in the calendar year 1908 was 665,000,000 bushels, as compared with 634,000,000 bushels for the crop year 1907, making 31,000,000 bushels more for the last crop year than we found the year previous, and it will be seen that a scarcity of wheat in this country is not the cause of the present abnormal increase in prices.

"Another factor of interest here is the corn crop of last year in its feeding potential. In considering the food of the people throughout the world when wheat becomes dear, as it is now as the result of this Chicago corner, people use more corn than they do when wheat is cheaper. In many of our states our people resort to corn bread when wheat bread becomes dear, as the cost of every day's food has to be carefully calculated. In the old world the people resorted to rye to a greater extent than when wheat becomes dear, so that the people who are running this corner will have to consider that less wheat will be used while it remains at an abnormally high price.

"In regard to the reliability of the reports relative to the amount of wheat on farms March 1, the reports of this department about 143,000,000 bushel in round numbers on the March 1.

"It was estimated on the first of March this year the amount of wheat on farms was 147,000,000 bushels and other statisticians of standing in public and private letters to this department put it at 140,000,000 to 170,000,000 bushels. On March 1 a year ago the department estimated the amount on farms to be 147,000,000 bushels, about 4,000,000 more than this year.

"In regard to the liability of these reports: The reporters of the department of agriculture are farmers living on the farms and know, if anybody knows, the facts. We cannot whistle these men down the wind. If we seek an honest class of community and hesitate to take the word of the American farmers, we will not establish truth by going to the gamblers.

"There is sufficient wheat in the country at normal prices to make bread for the American people up to the time when the new crop comes, and those who attempt to keep prices up at present rates expect to get their money out of the common people—the consumers.

"The large majority of wheat has left the hands of the farmers. A high price has been created. The farmers are not beneficiaries of such conditions; they will naturally plant more wheat and next year's crop is likely to be abnormally large, when the gamblers will not be in the market and mischief will be done by disturbance of the crop system."

Texas Flour Mills Close Down. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Dallas, Tex., April 17—Flour mills over Texas generally today decided to close down indefinitely tonight on account of the high price of wheat. The bakers have decreased the size of the loaves from 16 to 12 ounces, and charge five cents each.

NEW GRAND JURY FOR HASKELL CASE

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Washington, April 17—Attorney General Wickersham today telegraphed the United States attorney at Tulsa, Okla., that the present grand jury cannot legally re-investigate the Haskell case, that a new grand jury must be drawn from what was formerly the western district of the Indian Territory in order to reconsider those cases if they are to be reconsidered at all. The department of justice still has under consideration whether or not Judge Marshall's decision leaves open any new means of procuring indictments against Governor Haskell and his associates.

REVIVAL MEETING.

Ten Days Revival in Progress at the Christian Church.

Rev. L. F. Johnson, pastor of the Hillsboro street Christian church is conducting a ten days revival meeting at his church. He is sending out the following invitation: "You are invited to attend the Christian church revival. The meeting is now in progress and will continue for several days. Services every evening at 8 o'clock. Christian people of all denominations friends and strangers in the city are invited to attend and take some part in the meetings. If you are unconverted I entreat you to come and seek Jesus Christ. Take Him into your heart and life as your Lord and Master."

SMUGGLING SCHEME

Trunks Were Addressed to Miss Grant

Three Trunks Containing \$30,000 Worth of Fine Goods Addressed to Miss Grant and Mrs. Mason—Says Trunks Were Not Meant For Them.

San Francisco, April 17—Miss Nellie Grant, daughter of Jesse R. Grant and granddaughter of General U. S. Grant, and her aunt, Mrs. John E. Mason, have been notified by customs officials that three of the trunks containing about \$30,000 worth of French gowns and rare laces, seized in New York recently, were found to be addressed to them.

Miss Grant and Mrs. Mason informed the customs agents that the baggage was not their property and that they were unable to throw any light upon the smuggling plot which is now being investigated by the customs officers in New York City.

It was upon this assurance that the three trunks held at the New York custom house were opened and their contents confiscated.

"We returned from Calcutta last month," said Miss Grant, "after a two-years residence abroad, and all our effects were admitted free of duty. We arrived in New York on the Kroonland.

"Recently Mr. Stratton, the local collector, communicated with us and asked us whether or not we expected any baggage. When we told him we did not he immediately communicated with New York.

"They broke open the trunks there and found them filled with laces and gowns. The smugglers must have gotten our names from the passenger lists and decided to ship some goods addressed to us and then have agents all for them on this side.

"My father writes me that the officials have been searching for the smuggling gang that is carrying on this sort of traffic and I suppose this search has frightened the persons who used our names."

FOX GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER

(Special to The Times)

Wadesboro, April 17.—This morning at nine-thirty the jury in the case of J. L. Fox, charged with the killing of Steve Watson returned a verdict of manslaughter and Fox was sentenced by Judge Bigles to a term of twelve years in the State penitentiary at hard labor.

The jury in this case had been out since yesterday evening at four o'clock. Fox would evidently have gotten off with a lighter sentence had he not had such a bad reputation, for great stress was laid on the fact that he had committed the same deed with which he was charged here in Newton, his former home, several years since.

SCHEME TO ROB THE CONSUMERS AND MAKE MONEY

Is What James A. Patten Is Engaged In Says Secretary Wilson

MILLERS BLAME PATTEN

The Wheat King Arrived at His Office Long Before Nine O'clock, Roiled at Fresh Attack Upon Him and Prepared to Sell Part of His 6,000,000 Bushels of July Wheat, Millers Resort to Premiums to Increase Sales of Flour, Many Declaring Their Business is Almost Stagnant.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Chicago, April 17.—Accused by his enemies of having manipulated a wheat corner which will take bread from the mouth of the poor man and openly charged by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson with robbing the people by his manipulations, James A. Patten, the "wheat king of Chicago" arrived at his office long before 9 o'clock today, roiled at the fresh attack upon him and prepared to sell more wheat.

It has been estimated that Patten, by selling out at the recent high figures, netted fully two-thirds of a pool of \$4,000,000 which the Patten following had in wheat. It was also declared that he now holds some 6,000,000 bushels of July wheat, but will take profits on it within a short time, adhering to his declaration that he will sell out his line of wheat.

In the meantime some small bakers have been compelled to suspend business and big bakers are selling short-weight loaves. Millers have resorted to premiums to increase their sales of flour, many declaring their business is almost stagnant at this time.

These men blame Mr. Patten and side with Secretary Wilson, who, in his latest statement to the public, said this:

"That fellow in Chicago is engaged in a scheme to rob the consumer and make money."

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Chicago, April 17.—James A. Patten did not like the statement of the secretary of agriculture that he would place the statements of his army of "honest crop reporters" against the Patten predictions.

"My information is better than Secretary Wilson's even if he has 150,000 honest men," said Patten. "I would like Mr. Wilson to tell where that 143,000,000 bushels of reserve wheat is. In his March 1 report of wheat in farmers' hands he reported that figure. Now where is the wheat? Why doesn't it come out at these figures?"

"Kansas City is buying, or trying to buy wheat here. That indicates the situation. I still maintain that wheat will stay at high prices all the year."

JOHNSON NOW WANTS A TEN ROUND BOUT

(By TAD)

New York, April 17.—Jack Johnson now wants to box either Al Kaufman or Sam Langford before he meets Ketchel in Frisco and is willing to bet \$5,000 on the side.

"I was going to back Langford against Ketchel and put up \$5,000," said Johnson last night, "but Langford suddenly got too fresh, and I changed my mind. I know that Sam can beat Ketchel. Oh, that's certain, but as long as Ketchel thinks he has a chance against me and is willing to bet, why I'm there, too.

ANOTHER JOKER FOUND Discovered in Iron and Steel Schedule

Joker Inserted by the Senate Finance Committee Very Innocent Looking and Would Hardly Attract the Attention of the Average Congressman.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, April 17.—A little joker is said to have been discovered in paragraph 119 of the iron and steel schedule of the Payne tariff bill. It was inserted by the senate finance committee. It is very innocent and would hardly attract attention from the average congressman.

An insurgent republican member is responsible for bringing the joker to light.

Paragraph 119 provides as follows: "Beams, girders, joists, angles, channels, car truck channels, T. T. columns and posts or parts or sections of columns and posts, deck and bulb beams, and building forms, together with all other structural shapes of iron or steel, whether plain or punched for use three-tenths one cent per pound."

This was quite a cut as compared with the Dingley rate bill, but the senate finance committee amended it by raising the tariff to four-tenths of a cent per pound and struck out the words "whether plain or punched" and substituted "but not assembled, or manufactured, or advanced beyond hammering, rolling, or casting."

By striking out the words "or punched" the iron or steel structural material gets caught in the basket and has to pay an additional tariff of 20 per cent ad valorem.

MANY PEOPLE KILLED Said That 2,500 People Were Killed

Massacre of Christians Spreading to Other Towns and Mohammedan Fanatics Are Applying the Torch in Many Places.

(By Cable to The Times)

Constantinople, April 17.—The British consul at Adana and Major Doughty Wylie, the British vice-consul at Mersina have been wounded in the anti-Christian rioting, according to a report just received here. The latest reports today say that 2,500 people have been slain in Adana and Mersina and that the massacre of Christians is spreading to other towns and is likely to extend all over Asia-Minor. The Mohammedan fanatics are applying the torch in towns near the scenes of the massacres.

Malta, April 17.—The British warships anchored in the harbor here today got up steam in preparation for immediate orders to proceed to Turkey to protect British interests there.

Alexandretta, Asiatic Turkey, April 17.—The muslimans today turned their attention to Christians on the Pals coast. Two Christian villages were burned and the Lazarist missions are in grave danger.

Vienna, April 17.—The Zeit's correspondent at Uskub telegraphs that the Albanians have risen and defeated forces of Turkish troops at Ochrida and Ipek.

Salonica, April 17.—Energetic measures are to be taken to combat disaffection. Albania has put 20,000 men at the disposal of the young Turk committee at Salonica.

DECISION GIVEN IN NAVAL STORES CASE

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Savannah, Ga., April 17.—Judge Sheppard, in the United States District Court today handed down his decision in the demurrer case of the United States against the American Naval Stores Company the so-called trust, and others.

The court sustained the validity of the penal provisions of the Sherman anti-trust act and also sustained that count of the indictment which charged the defendants with a conspiracy in restraint of trade, but declared defective and dismissed that count of the indictment which charged that the defendants operated a monopoly or attempt to monopolize. The case will go to trial, it is thought, next Wednesday or Thursday.

DEMOCRATS IN THE SENATE ARE ALSO DIVIDED

Same Difference Exists As to Tariff As in the House

UNITED ON INCOME TAX

Democrats in the Senate Will Vote For Rates Their Constituents Are Asking For and This Means That Lumber and Hides Will Not Go On the Free List—Republicans Are Also Divided But Not So Pronouncedly as in the House—Democrats Are Practically United On An Income Tax.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, April 17.—The same difference exists among the democrats in the senate over the tariff bill as among the democrats in the house. This also applies to the republican, but not so pronouncedly in the senate as in the house, for the reason that the western republican senators have so far been successful in securing almost everything they have insisted on. However, the Aldrich-Payne tariff bill is by no means out of the woods, so far as amendments are concerned and it is the amendments to be offered that worries Senator Aldrich. The democrats will vote for rates their constituents are asking for. This means that lumber will not go on the free list, nor will hides remain on the free list, but on the question of an income tax, the democrats are practically united. There is a strong contingent on the republican side of the chamber in favor of this tax as against the inheritance tax. The belief is growing daily that the income tax idea will prevail when the matter has been submitted to a vote. Some three or four income tax amendments will be offered next week by republicans, so it was said today. The house, it is believed, would accept the income tax by a large majority.

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SHOT WIFE AND KILLED HIMSELF

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Conisto, N. Y., April 17.—Arthur G. Conklin, a young farmer, shot his wife and then threw himself under the wheels of a rapidly moving trolley car. The woman is still alive, but is in a critical condition. Conklin is dead.

The couple came to this village apparently on the best of terms. Conklin went to a hardware store and bought a box of cartridges, several of which he slipped into a revolver while standing in the doorway. Mrs. Conklin was walking slowly down the street slightly in advance of her husband when he suddenly drew the revolver and shot her, then throwing himself under the car.

TWO CHARTERS TODAY.

A Brick Company and a Laundry Chartered.

Messrs. J. H. Cunningham, W. H. Osborne and C. D. Cunningham, of Greensboro, have been granted a charter to do business under the name of the Cunningham Brick Company. They will manufacture and sell brick. The paid in capital is \$5,000, authorized capital stock \$25,000.

The Alderman-Capehart Laundry Company, of Washington, begins business on a paid in capital of \$3,150. Authorized capital stock \$10,000. J. L. Capehart, W. L. Vaughan and W. H. Alderman are the incorporators.

FIREMENS' TOURNAMENT

Will be Held in Asheville in July

Raleigh Boys Don't Want the Truck Race Eliminated—Other Cities Araid to Meet Raleigh Truck Team—Raleigh Team Has Won for Four Years in Succession—Strive for New Record This Year.

Capt. James D. McNeill, of Fayetteville, president of the State Firemen's Association, has announced that the annual convention and tournament will be held this year on the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of July, nearly a month earlier than they have heretofore been held. The change of dates is satisfactory to the local department and it is thought that it will meet the approval of all. This change was made by the executive committee of the association, after careful consultation.

The convention is to be held in Asheville again this year, and Raleigh, as usual, will be represented by strong teams. The boys are hoping to beat their own great record in the hose wagon race. In the truck race, Raleigh has won first money for four years. Mr. John Wynne was captain of the truck team last year. This year it seems that the whole circuit has "laid down" on this race, none of them having the nerve to buck up against Raleigh's team. President McNeill has written to Chief Mangum that as no one will enter against the capital city in this race that he thinks it advisable to leave it off the program. This does not suit the chief and it does not suit the boys of the department. The truck race is a fixture. For years it has been one of the most interesting features of the tournament and the Raleigh boys do not like to see it left out simply because the other fire departments of the state have "cold feet." It is a branch of the fire-fighting business that should not be neglected, and leaving the contest off the program would mean decreasing interest in it in every city of the state.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, April 17.—The same difference exists among the democrats in the senate over the tariff bill as among the democrats in the house. This also applies to the republican, but not so pronouncedly in the senate as in the house, for the reason that the western republican senators have so far been successful in securing almost everything they have insisted on. However, the Aldrich-Payne tariff bill is by no means out of the woods, so far as amendments are concerned and it is the amendments to be offered that worries Senator Aldrich. The democrats will vote for rates their constituents are asking for. This means that lumber will not go on the free list, nor will hides remain on the free list, but on the question of an income tax, the democrats are practically united. There is a strong contingent on the republican side of the chamber in favor of this tax as against the inheritance tax. The belief is growing daily that the income tax idea will prevail when the matter has been submitted to a vote. Some three or four income tax amendments will be offered next week by republicans, so it was said today.