

THE WEATHER
CLOUDY TONIGHT. SUN-
DAY CLOUDY AND
PROBABLY RAIN.

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EQUITY BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED DURING MONTH

Abernethy Tells of Boll Weevil Campaign Plans

WHITFORD IS ELECTED NEW JAILOR

BIG BUILDING BOOM TO BE INAUGURATED WITH THE NEW YEAR

HUGHES OFFERS SUGGESTION AS TO POLICY FOR REPARATIONS

Independent Commission of Financiers Urged To Study Reparations Question

DELIVERS OPINION IN NEW HAVEN ADDRESS

In Meantime He Suggests That Action of the Allied Premiers Be Awaited

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(By Associated Press)—Disclosure by Secretary Hughes in his New Haven speech last night of the belief of the Washington government that an international commission of financiers, including American, might well be called to recommend a method of settlement for the reparations crisis, apparently leaves the next move in the hands of the allied premiers.

The American suggestion Mr. Hughes specified was offered as an alternative in the event that the premiers at their Paris meeting next Tuesday, failed to find a basis for adjustment to their views "among themselves."

The Secretary stressed the view that settlement by the premiers was to be hoped for. He pointed out that falling in such an agreement, the world might be facing the employment of forcible means to collect reparations from Germany and outlined the danger to world peace the American government foresaw in that course.

The plain warning to allied statesmen that the United States could not look with favor on attempted forcible collections was reiterated by Mr. Hughes in his address, and the financial commission plan put forward as an alternative that would "open hopefully" the way for the American help.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR COMING WEEK

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(By Associated Press)—Weather outlook for the week beginning Monday:

South Atlantic and East Gulf States: Rain at the beginning of the week and again about Thursday or Friday otherwise fair. Temperature normal or above until near end of the week, then colder.

Mrs. H. B. Simpson, of Alliance, returned home last night after spending the day here shopping with friends.

A Western newspaper asked its readers to name the twelve greatest painters in the world, and immediately a lot of husbands entered their wives in the contest.

Business Outlook Is Bright

Prospects Are Favorable For Better Conditions During the Forthcoming Year.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Stock and bond prices generally closed the year at materially higher levels, which is not only a reflection of the marked improvement that has taken place in business and industry during the last twelve months but it is also construed by New York conservative banking interests as an indication of still further progress during the coming year.

The year closes with conditions favorable for a further appreciation of commodity and futurity prices in the opinion of the financial community. Unfavorable and unexpected developments in the political and economic situation abroad are generally considered as the only probable obstacles to arrest the improvement in business and the financial world, which began in the trouble of 1921 and has continued with few temporary interruptions until the present time.

The prediction of further business prosperity is based on several well known facts. Foremost among these is the easiness of the money market and the large sum available for commercial credits. In addition, most stocks of merchandising are low, railroad traffic is close to record levels, exports are increasing, the principal European exchanges are heading back to par, and the European economic situation shows signs of improvement, exports are increasing and unfilled orders for

railroad equipment are the largest in years.

Other favorable signs are seen in the fact that no big strikes are threatening or pending, a great amount of construction work is still in progress, despite a record breaking year of activity in the building industry, automobile production reach a new peak which probably will be exceeded next year, while gasoline consumption has been the highest in history and electric companies are doing a record business.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—(By Associated Press)—Optimism for 1923 permeated summarizations from a business standpoint of the year now closing, as made public today by some of Chicago's leaders in finance and industry. They gave their reasons for their satisfaction with the situation, chief of which were:

- Upward trend of trade.
- Increasing business activity.
- A tone of greater confidence.
- Improved conditions of agriculture.
- Favorable condition of bank reserves, interest rates and credit structure.
- More normal relationship between prices of different classes of commodities.
- Better foreign exchange quotations.
- Increased prices of farm crops were generally given an important place in the statements.

Agricultural Experts To Visit This Section

An educational campaign relative to growing cotton and boll weevil conditions will be inaugurated in the Third Congressional District early in the year, according to announcement made today by Congressman Charles L. Abernethy.

Mr. Abernethy has been interesting himself greatly in matters pertaining to the agricultural development of the district. He has conferred with officials of the Department of Agriculture and of the Bureau of Entomology and has secured the assistance and co-operation of these departments in the proposed campaign.

Experts are coming here a number of government agricultural experts will come to this district early in the year. Mr. Abernethy said this morning and will hold meetings and advise with the farmers in every section of the district. The State Extension Service also will assist in this campaign, according to advice which Mr. Abernethy has received from Dr. D. W. Kilgore.

"I realize that the most important work I could hope to undertake in congress is that which does the greatest good to the greatest number of people in my district," said Mr. Abernethy today in discussing the matter. "No other single agency exacts such a loss as does the boll weevil. Therefore, I believe that the thing we need most is to learn how to grow cotton under boll weevil conditions."

Mr. Abernethy has been here for several days, spending the Christmas holidays in New Bern. He intends returning to Washington tomorrow. When asked today how he liked his new position as representative of the Third District, he said that he was well satisfied in every respect. "I didn't go to Congress with any idea of making a name for myself," he said. "My sole desire is to be of service to the people of the Third District. I want them to call upon me in any matter in which I can be of assistance to them."

KLAN TO MAKE INVESTIGATION

Louisiana Branch of Klan To Conduct Its Own Investigation of Kidnapping

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—The Louisiana organization of the Ku Klux Klan will send its own agent into Morehouse Parish to investigate the kidnapping and killing of W. H. Daniels and Thomas Richards last August, according to an announcement given today by a high official of the Klan. This action, he said, was decided at a conference here of heads of the state organization at which a reporter of a New Orleans newspaper was permitted to attend.

INVESTIGATE KILLING OF FRED ALLISON

MORGANTON, N. C., Dec. 30.—Preliminary investigation by Solicitor R. L. Huffman, of the recent killing of Fred Allison, 29-year-old automobile mechanic, near Lincolnton, included a discussion of the case set for today with L. J. Allison, of Charlotte, brother of the dead man.

Fred Allison was fatally wounded in an exchange of shots between three alleged liquor runners in an automobile and Deputy Sheriff Baxter and Miller, according to Sheriff Abernethy. While a coroner's jury indicated its belief that a shot by one of his companions caused Allison's fatal wound, Huffman said a physician who examined the wound expressed the belief that the bullet had been battered by striking the automobile before entering Allison's body.

The last of the visiting Shriners who attended the mid-winter ceremonial session of Sudan temple held in this city on Thursday, left yesterday morning returning home. Each and every one of the visitors reported having a most enjoyable time.

GRAY IS NOT TO BE EXTRADITED

Governor Morrison Refuses To Let Mebane Youth Be Taken Back to Kentucky

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 30.—Governor Cameron Morrison today rescinded his action of earlier in the week in honoring extradition papers in the case of William Bingham Gray, wanted in Kentucky on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences, after a hearing held at the Governor's office. Gray was immediately given his liberty.

"I have made an investigation of this matter," said the Governor, "and while I believe a sincere and honest effort was made to re-establish the school at Mebane, failure has been the result. I do not believe young Gray is guilty of any fraud. I have found that he held his law class at the University of Virginia this year and was considered a very bright man with an excellent future. I do not intend to ruin his life by sending him to Kentucky for trial."

"I want to say, however, that Colonel Gray should discontinue the operation of the school, or it will get him into serious trouble," he said.

Gray was on a train en route to Kentucky yesterday in the custody of Agent J. B. Hubbard when his father, Preston Lewis Gray advised Governor Morrison he wished to present his side of the case. The executive rescinded the extradition until a further hearing when Gray was brought here.

LOCAL MAN DIES IN WASHINGTON

Sudden Death Occurred Last Night in Nation's Capital. Be Buried Here.

Mr. Clifton R. Warters, of Washington, D. C., died last night at his home in the capital city. News of his death was brought to this city in telegrams to Miss Fannie Trenwith and Mrs. Nettie Watson, relatives of the family.

The messages contained no details of the death, simply stating that Mr. Warters died at 8:30 o'clock and that his remains would be brought to this city for burial. The time of the funeral is unknown at this time.

Mr. Warters was a native of New Bern and lived here until about fifteen years ago when he moved to Washington City. He was well known and universally liked in New Bern, he having renewed his friendships and acquaintances by annual visits to this city.

He was a machinist and locomotive engineer by trade, but for the past several years has been superintendent of one of the largest office buildings in Washington, the Commercial National Bank building.

ONE PERSON KILLED IN ARDMORE FIRE

ARDMORE, Okla., Dec. 30.—(By Associated Press)—At least one person was killed and two blocks of frame business buildings were destroyed in an early morning fire here early today. Two other persons are reported missing.

Mrs. J. E. Heath returned home to Alliance last night after spending the day here shopping with friends.

MEDICAL COLLEGE WITHOUT ALLIES

Catawba Wants—Free Textbook Bill

HICKORY, Dec. 30.—"I favor a fully equipped medical college, for the state, free from any entangling alliances," Representative W. A. Deaton, of Catawba county, declared today in announcing he will support during the next session of the general assembly a program of legislation designed to improve the educational system of North Carolina.

"I do not know what the Trinity College offer will be, if any, but any proposition in order to receive my approval must put the state in control," he continued, referring to a recent proposition made to the state by the Durham institution to unite with the University in establishing a modern medical college to operate under a state charter. Complete details of the offer have not yet been made public.

FATTY ARBUCKLE NOT TO BE FILMED SOON, SAYS MR. HAYS

Kansas City, Dec. 30.—The spirit of America must not tolerate an arraying of class against class, sectional animosity or religious prejudice, will H. Hays, director-general of the motion picture industry, declared at a banquet of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity convention here recently.

Meeting of Circle Three

Circle No. 3 of the Jane K. Meadows Auxiliary met in the home of Mrs. A. M. Franklin Friday afternoon, with a splendid attendance.

The meeting was opened with scripture reading followed with prayer by Mrs. W. B. Rouse. Mrs. Lacey Lancaster, Mrs. C. O. H. Boyd, Mrs. Weddell and Mrs. Regan gave very helpful and inspiring poems and papers on the New Year. Other members gave helpful talks for the good of the meeting. We also made many resolutions for the coming year.

IRVIN S. COBB IS AN EDITOR FOR A NIGHT

PADUCAH, Ky., Dec. 30.—(By Associated Press)—Irvin S. Cobb, held down the job of managing editor last night of the News-Democrat, the paper he left in 1904 to go to the New York Sun.

From his old desk, a fixture in the News-Democrat office, he supervised preparation of copy and, among other things, wrote a signed story.

Many Paducahans visited the office to see Editor Cobb in action. Mr. Cobb, a native of Paducah, was visiting his mother, Mrs. Mamie Cobb here. Responding to an urge to "get back into harness," he accepted an invitation from G. H. Goodman, publisher of the News-Democrat, to hold the editorial reins for one night.

NEW JAILOR TO TAKE UP DUTIES IMMEDIATELY

Commissioners Also Made Curatorial in the County's Payroll Yesterday

The county commissioners, in session yesterday afternoon, following the joint meeting with the city aldermen, chopped several names from the county's salary list and made reductions in pay in other cases.

Two members of the road force were discharged. Owing to less work in the county auditing department, one of the employees there was released and the salary to the assistant to the auditor was cut from \$25 a week to \$18.

W. H. Whitford, of this city, was elected jailor, succeeding Winfield Gaskins, whose term of office with that of the old board of county commissioners, who went on of office a few weeks ago.

Mr. Whitford will begin his duties at once. Mr. Gaskins has not yet announced his plans for the future.

Oyster Roast at Country Club

The Country Club wishes for its members a Happy New Year. It cordially invites them to an oyster roast to be given Tuesday evening, January 2, at 7:30 o'clock. All guests are kindly requested to bring their own oyster knives. Hudie Green will be there in all his glory for the dancers and those who wish to take part in bridge or other games are requested to bring a deck of cards with them. Hosts and hostesses for the evening will be Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Stevenson, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Claypool, Mr. and Mrs. T. Bayard Whitehurst and Mr. and Mrs. John Gulon.

Chief of Police Bryan Has Received Applications For Permits.

12 NEW STORES

Nassef To Erect An Entire Block of Buildings on Pasteur St.

Further evidence of the gigantic building boom which is to be inaugurated in New Bern during the coming year is seen in the fact that approximately eighty permits for new structures within the city limits have been issued by Chief of Police Bryan within the past four weeks.

This eclipses all records for Eastern Carolina and is indicative of the immense amount of construction work which will soon be in progress here.

Among the permits are twelve for brick buildings which will be erected by Mr. Nassef on Pasteur street. Two others are for frame business buildings, while the remainder are for residences.

WILMINGTON

The Commercial failed to open its doors today. Notice was posted by W. P. Folger, manager, saying that the building had been closed by order of the troller of Currency and the examiner had taken charge.

Mr. Folger, who has been in charge of the bank's books for several months, refused to make any statement, other than to refer to the formal notice posted on the door of the institution. One executive, who declined to permit his name to be used, said:

"I believe that if the bank is properly managed that 100 cents on every dollar will be paid to depositors."

Closing of the institution came as a surprise generally, it was said by Wilmington business men.

Thomas E. Cooper is president of the bank and Lieutenant Governor W. B. Cooper is a director and formerly was executive head of the bank. The other directors are Charles E. Bell, Horace C. Cooper, man, assistant cashier.

Lewis and Dempsey Signed For "Mixed"

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Ed. "Strangler" Lewis, world champion heavyweight wrestler, announced today that arrangements have been completed for a mixed match with Jack Dempsey, heavyweight pugilistic title holder, and himself. Lewis produced signed articles covering the match, which were drawn at Wichita, Kansas, and carried the signature of Jack Kearns, manager for Dempsey.

The articles, a sporting writer observed, rules as to behavior. Lewis said: "We will be world champions when I learn the championship of the world."