

COAL MINERS DECIDE TO RETURN TO WORK

President Wilson's Proposal is Accepted at Indianapolis and the Miners are Getting Back to Their Jobs

The general committee of the United Mine Workers of America, at Indianapolis, Ind., late last Wednesday afternoon voted to accept President Wilson's proposal for immediate return to work pending final settlement of their wage controversy with operators by a commission to be appointed by the President.

It is stated that miners, operators and government officials alike were highly gratified over the settlement and all sides appeared confident of a final settlement of the fight by the commission.

The action ends a tie-up of the coal industry of more than five weeks duration and one which was more far-reaching in its effects than any other in the history of the country.

The basis of agreement was that the miners are to receive an increase of 14 per cent in wages, but the operators are not to add the increase to the cost of coal to the public.

Late dispatches say that about 80 per cent of the miners have returned to work.

THE W. M. U. OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

I feel that I must use this opportunity and privilege to speak a word of appreciation of the noble and loyal support which the women and children of the First Baptist church gave to the 75-million campaign recently conducted in our Southern Baptist convention.

The women and children did a splendid part in our week's campaign and, as W. M. U. organizer and director of that department in the church, I want to thank each one for their loyal support given.

I sent the following report to Miss Bertha Carroll, our W. M. U. State secretary, Dec. 8:

W. M. U., \$3,060; Y. W. A., \$536; G. A., \$378.25; S. B., \$265; total for organizations, \$4,239.25; women and children not members of organizations, \$1,086.75; pledged by all women and children, \$5,326.

No one of these organizations is in any way separate or independent from the church—all work together making the complete work of the church and doing what they can to link together its place in the chain.

The secretaries and treasurers of each society and of each circle in the W. M. U. are asked to co-operate with Mr. Beach, our church treasurer, in helping keep in touch with those who may forget or from different interferences fail to keep up with their pledges.

MRS. J. EDWIN HOYLE, W. M. U. Director, First Baptist Church.

COUSIN OF MRS. McMILLAN IS HOME FROM OVERSEAS

The following, from a Dolington, Pa., newspaper will be of interest to a number of Lenoir folks who knew Sergeant Downs when he visited his cousin, Mrs. Fred McMillan, here some time ago:

Sergeant Clarence H. Downs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Downs of Dolington, Pa., who enlisted in the army May 20, 1917, is now home on a furlough after spending eighteen months with the A. E. F. He saw service in England, France and Germany.

Kentucky distillers and more than 300 Louisville former saloon keepers were also jolted by the decision of the court. The distillers, it was estimated, had 39,000,000 gallons of whiskey in Kentucky bonded warehouses, 9,500,000 gallons of it in Louisville alone, ordinarily worth at wholesale \$400,000,000.

BOONE-B. ROCK ROAD IS TAKEN OVER BY STATE

State Highway Commission Accepts Road as Part of County Seat to County Seat System; To Build a Gravel Road

One of the most important cross-mountain routes—the road from the Caldwell county line at Blowing Rock to Boone—has been taken over by the State highway commission for construction by the State and Federal governments as a link of the county seat to county seat highway system.

Already two roads in Caldwell county have been accepted by the State highway commission. The road from Lenoir to the Wilkes county line, 16 miles, and the road from Lenoir to the Catawba county line, 10 miles, making 32 miles for Caldwell county, or 45 miles for this immediate section.

With the acceptance of the Boone-Blowing Rock line there will be a continuous highway between Boone and all points south and east with the exception of the link between Blowing Rock and Lenoir, which is now a toll road.

Seventy-eight of the 100 counties in the State have filed with the State highway commission application for State and Federal aid in road building since the commission was re-organized, and there are now in the hands of the commission applications for aid on 108 separate projects, two of which have been completed, and the others are pending, according to figures just given out.

Surveys are being made on 65 projects that have been applied for, are being at present 25 surveying parties in the field in various sections of the State. This work has been hindered somewhat by the lack of road engineers, and many projects have had to await their turn in being surveyed until Federal and State engineers could find the time for working around to them.

CALDWELL CO. CLUB MEMBERS LOOKING TO BANQUET

Last Saturday night the boys from Caldwell county at the University met and had a smoker. It was the first meeting of the Caldwell County Club since it was organized a few weeks ago, and the Caldwellians enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent.

WAR-TIME "DRY" ACT UPHELD BY THE COURT

Declared Constitutional in Unanimous Decision—Last Hope of Wets Goes Glimmering; A "Dry" Christmas

By unanimous decision constitutionality of the war-time prohibition act was sustained Monday by the United States Supreme Court. The opinion, given by Associate Justice Brandeis, held, in effect, however, that the war-invoked "dry" period still may be terminated by presidential proclamation of demobilization.

The court's decision Monday practically swept away all hopes of a "wet" Christmas, as the possibilities of the war-time act being repealed before constitutional prohibition becomes effective Jan. 16 were considered remote.

The knock-out delivered John Barleycorn by the Supreme Court came as a tremendous blow to leaders of the "wets," dispensers of liquors and wisecracks who have been predicting a wet as well as a merry Christmas, and the average man with a thirst.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hudspeth an son, Mr. Richard Hudspeth, arrived here several days ago from Topeka, Kan., on a cross-country trip from that State.

CALDWELL BAPTISTS OVER QUOTA FOR THE COUNTY

Fourteen Church Now to Be Heard From—Some Notable Work Done—Director McCall is Jubilant Over Results

Twenty-five of the thirty-nine Baptist churches in Caldwell county have pledged \$28,111 in the 75-million campaign. When the final reports are in from all the churches and from the fourteen already not heard from the total amount will be materially swelled, is the belief of County Director J. W. C. McCall.

Among the churches making the most notable showings are Lenoir First, with a quota of \$6,000, pledging \$12,000; Whitnel, with a quota of \$600, pledged \$2,480; Rhodhiss, with a quota of \$1,200, pledged \$2,930. The final reports from Granite Falls have not been received.

There are many interesting features of the campaign, Mr. McCall says. One of them was the conversion of a Primitive Baptist parson to the missionary ideas. Before the campaign was over this good man was out helping with the good work.

LEGION MEN HOLD AN ENJOYABLE MEETING

A very enjoyable time was had by service men of the county at a smoker given in their honor by the Caldwell post of the American Legion on the evening of Dec. 15. Although unfortunately a good many of the service men of the county were not present, the meeting was a great success and was "chuck full" of enthusiasm from beginning to end.

On account of the unusual amount of interest shown by the members of the legion it was unanimously decided to have regular meetings of the local post on the first and third Monday nights of each month, for the present at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in Hardy's studios.

It is the hope of the Legion members that within the next few months the finances of the post will be in a condition to justify the rental of a hall to be used as Legion headquarters in the county and as a reading room and place of amusement for all members of the Legion who may be either members of the local post or visiting in the city.

Red Cross Seal Committee

A splendid committee is working for the best sale yet of Red Cross Christmas seals. Seventy-five per cent of the proceeds of this sale is used right here in our own community for health work. Much good has been accomplished with this fund in buying blankets, milk, medicines, etc.

The following ladies compose this enthusiastic committee: Mrs. W. H. Craddock, president U. D. C.; Mrs. H. M. Teague, president Maids and Matrons' Club; Mrs. Clarence Courtney, president Priscilla Club; Mrs. C. L. Robbins, president Wise and Otherwise Club; Mrs. Lawrence Stine, president New Idea Club; resident Q. V. Club; Mrs. M. M. Courtney, Methodist missionary society; Mrs. J. E. Hoyle, Baptist society; Mrs. John Tolbert, Baptist home mission society; Mrs. J. H. Dinglehoff, Lutheran society.

May Locate in Old Home County

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hudspeth an son, Mr. Richard Hudspeth, arrived here several days ago from Topeka, Kan., on a cross-country trip from that State.

WILSON LUMBER COMPANY HOLDINGS ARE BOUGHT

Lenoir Lumber Company Organized to Manufacture Lumber—Several Million Feet—Capitalized at \$90,000

All of the timber lands and city property of the Wilson Lumber and Milling Company have been bought by the Lenoir Lumber Company, a new corporation organized by local men. The purchase price is said to be about \$90,000.

The timber is located principally on Mulberry and John's river and will be manufactured by small saw mills as quickly as the new company is able to make plans and get in operation. The old lumber yards, located just north of the Harper Furniture Company plant, will be used by the new owners as the shipping point from Lenoir.

The Lenoir Lumber Company was organized and the purchase effected during the past ten days. The company is made up of county and Lenoir men, with the following officers and directors: J. C. Seagle, president; Rufus L. Gwyn, vice-president; V. D. Guire, secretary and treasurer. The other director are T. H. Broyhill, J. H. Beall, J. L. Cottrell and Charles C. Steele.

The timber lands just bought by this company include some of the finest virgin timber in western North Carolina.

HOEY ELECTED TO CONGRESS FROM NINTH DISTRICT

Returns Wednesday from the Ninth congressional district, complete and official with the exception of Madison county, where a Republican majority of 900 was conceded, give Clyde R. Hoey, Democrat, a majority of 1,978 over John M. Morehead, Republican.

Hoey carried Burke, Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Lincoln and Yancey. Morehead carried Avery, Catawba, Madison and Mitchell. Justice E. Y. Webb in the election of 1918 carried five counties.

The Democratic vote in Mecklenburg and Gaston counties suffered a slump of 1,900 over 1918.

CENSUS WORK IN CALDWELL TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH

The work of securing census enumerators for Lenoir, Caldwell county and other counties in the Eighth congressional district is well under way, according to announcement by Mr. A. L. Deal of Mooresville, the supervisor of this district. The plans for Caldwell county have not been given out yet, but it is understood that the work will be taken up by townships and that a man will be appointed for each township.

The work of securing enumerators in the county has been in progress for several weeks. Announcement of the men secured will be given out at an early date.

Pensions Being Distributed

There are still a few Federate pension vouchers in Clerk of the Court Moore's office that have not been distributed. The owners of these pensions should call for them now or get in touch with the clerk in reference to same.

At the present time there is only one Caldwell county man, J. A. Bolluck of Upton, who receives a third-class pension. Eighty-one men receive fourth-class pensions. Fifty-two Caldwell women receive pension of different grades. The pensions are paid in two equal installments on July 15 and Dec. 15. The December installment for the entire State amounted to approximately \$325,000. There are about 12,000 persons drawing pensions, according to the State auditor's office in Raleigh.

Graded School News

The graded school will observe North Carolina day in miscellaneous exercises which be started off by the primary department under the direction of Misses King and Wright. These exercises will be held Friday afternoon at the close of the fall term examinations. A collection will be taken in each room for the Aycock memorial.

The school will close Friday for a two-week holiday period, beginning the spring term Monday, Jan. 5.

Miss Mary Shotwell of the Federal Reserve thrift forces was here Tuesday to make arrangements for the organization of thrift societies in the school. It is highly desirable that our young people be taught the lesson of thrift.

To Celebrate Golden Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Deal have announced the celebration of their golden wedding to take place next Monday at their home, just south of Lenoir. This will be a delightful occasion for all who enjoy the Deal hospitality. There is no home in the county more renowned for its generous reception to its guests than this one. Life's evening shadows have fallen lightly upon this happy couple. Fifty years ago they were married—Miss Sarah McCall, daughter of the late John McCall, and Mr. Deal. The wedding was solemnized at the McCall home near Tuttle's mill, the late Rev. George Sherrill officiating. Children, grandchildren and a host of friends tender their congratulations.

LEST WE FORGET

In anticipation of the joyous Christmas season which is so near at hand, and in remembrance of all Americans who so well served the world in restoring "peace on earth and good will to men," let us think of the men and the 120 Red Cross nurses who are patients in the Otis Tuberculosis Hospital in Asheville who were stricken down with the dread disease while in the service overseas. A Christmas box will be sent on December 22 from the Red Cross work room over the Lenoir Drug Store, and any one desiring to contribute to this method of distributing a little sunshine into the lives of these representatives of ours who are suffering agony on account of duty well performed can do so by sending or bringing some good cheer such as jelly, preserves, fruits, candy, cakes, etc., to the Red Cross work room between hours of 11 a. m. and 12 on or before Monday, December 22.

Let's make this Christmas brighter by adding a little happiness to these patients who have done so much for humanity. W. J. LENOIR, Mayor.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOLS CLOSE FOR HOLIDAYS

Davenport College Will Reopen January 7; Public Schools January 5, Giving the Students Two Weeks' Vacation

Tomorrow Davenport College and the Lenoir public schools close for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Two weeks' vacation time will be given this season. Davenport College will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 6; the Lenoir public schools will reopen one day earlier, Monday, Jan. 5.

In the public schools classes will begin on the opening day and all children are advised to come prepared. At Davenport College classes will begin Wednesday following the arrival of the students on Tuesday.

CHRISTMAS SEALS ARE NOT SOLD BY RED CROSS

In order that the public may not suffer under the misapprehension that the Red Cross has no sooner finished one campaign than it begins another, it is necessary that the Red Cross members should understand fully, and make others understand, that the Red Cross is in no way connected with the sale of Red Cross Christmas seals by the National and State Tuberculosis associations.

The Red Cross and the tuberculosis associations have worked together for years in the closest co-operation and harmony, but the work of each is separate and distinct. They do not overlap in any way, nor do they derive their funds from the same source. The Red Cross is supported by its annual membership drive, just concluded, while the tuberculosis association receives most of its support from the sale of Christmas seals.

There is no organization to which the Red Cross wishes more success than to the tuberculosis association, and none with whose work it is in more sympathy; it is vitally interested in the success of the Christmas seals sale and lends its approval and backing, but this is not in any sense a campaign conducted by the American Red Cross.

ALL RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF COAL ARE SUSPENDED

Thousands of Industries Throughout the South to Resume Operations—All Trains Taken Off Restored to Runs

Suspension of all restrictions on the use of fuel and reinstatement of train service curtailed during the nation-wide strike of bituminous coal miners was announced in Atlanta last Friday night by the southern regional coal committee, acting on authority received from Washington.

The order suspending fuel restrictions was effective immediately and trains were restored at 12:01 a. m. Monday. In cases where resumption of certain passenger train schedules would interfere with movement of coal the trains will not be put back until the situation clears up.

The order meant that thousands of industries throughout the South which have been shut down because of lack of coal will be in operation again in a short time and that stores which had to observe short hours where their light, heat or power came from consumption of coal, wood or gas may return to normal hours in time to take care of the Christmas shopping. The railroads, were put in a position to take care of the rush of holiday travel.

In issuing its announcement of suspension of fuel restrictions the committee thanked the "people of the South who have observed so loyal a time asked that coal still be all" the regulations, and at the same time asked that coal still be conserved as much as possible. As a result of the strike the country lost production of between 30,000,000 and 35,000,000 tons of coal.

CHESTNUT BLIGHT IS NOW SPREADING TO THE SOUTH

United States Forestry Service Experts Are Making Examination of the Bark Disease—Now in the Blue Ridge

United States forestry experts are now making examinations and investigations into the chestnut bark disease, which is said to have completely ruined many thousands of dollars worth of bark and timber in the extreme northern end of the Blue Ridge mountains, and which is spreading south, recently having been found in North Carolina.

Slightly infected sections have been found in Guilford and Surry counties in this State, which is said to bear out the suggestion by the forestry experts that the disease is spreading southward. It is estimated by these officials that western North Carolina, the national forest reserve areas, will be infected by 1930 unless steps toward prevention are taken.

The Natural Bridge forests in Virginia have been found to be infected in large boundaries, and several smaller ones, and the death of practically the entire stand on this forest can be expected within a comparatively few years. Eight other counties in Virginia were found to have the same infection.

Authorities say that it is necessary to do careful eradication work and to re-inspect the vicinity of the diseased trees for several years if these advance indications are to be completely eradicated.

Studies are being made in this disease by Federal forestry agents to determine the probable future of the chestnut oak.

THOUGHT THERMOMETER WAS GOING TO 95 BELOW

Another surprise has been registered by the superstitious in the failure of the world to come to an abrupt end, or rock an dreal, yesterday, as was predicted several weeks ago. Last night it was reported that a few persons in Lenoir had looked for something direful to happen. It was said that some of the darkies thought the thermometer was going to 95 degrees below zero.

Associated Press dispatches yesterday told of some excitement in different parts of the country. Many persons thought the end of time was coming. At Miami, Okla., a few miners refused to go underground to work during the day. At Washington the weather men are keeping close tab on the weather for any funny signs or actions. The best that the weather men could make out of the signs as they read them was that low pressure had combined to bring low temperatures except in the southwestern part of the country.

MR. FRANK GRIST AND MISS JESSIE DEAL MARRIED

A pretty home wedding was solemnized last Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Deal, when their youngest daughter, Miss Jessie Deal, became the bride of Mr. Frank D. Grist of Lenoir. This was the culmination of a pretty romance, as the groom was a member of the American Expeditionary Forces and saw strenuous service overseas in the world war, during which time they kept in communication with each other as best they could.

The ceremony was performed in the presence of the family and a few intimate friends of the contracting parties by Rev. R. C. Goforth, assisted by Rev. R. D. Sherrill, the former the bride's pastor and the latter the pastor of the groom. After the ceremony the bride and groom repaired to the home of Mrs. M. N. Grist, mother of the groom, where a wedding supper was in waiting.

LENOIR SCHOOLS WILL OBSERVE AYCOCK DAY

Tomorrow the Lenoir public schools will observe Aycock Day. A request has been sent out by the State school authorities requesting both our church and school to observe "Aycock School Improvement Day" Friday, Dec. 19, as required by law. On that day the patrons and friends of every school are expected to meet at the schoolhouse and discuss—or, better still, provide—such improvements as are most needed.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE WILL BE BIG EVENT

Plans for the community Christmas tree, which is to be held Christmas night, have been worked out and are now being carried out by the Priscilla Club. The tree will be a big event, with special singing and lantern slide illustrations. The event will take place on the public square and will be public. Everybody is asked to come. A request has been made for volunteers to help in the distribution of the gifts.

JOHN McLEOD DIED SUDDENLY YESTERDAY MORNING

News reached here yesterday of the sudden death of Mr. John McLeod, one of the most prominent men in the county, which occurred at his home some time during the morning hours. Mr. McLeod was well known here. He was a man about 65 years of age and was one of the most public-spirited men the county has ever produced.