

BLIND PREACHER TRIES TO KILL RIVAL AND SELF

His Sweetheart Turned Him Down After a Long Engagement and He Wanted to Shoot Rival and End His Own Life

News has just reached here from Hudson that Rev. Mr. Setzer, a blind preacher, ran amuck with a .38-caliber pistol several days ago, threatening the life of another man who had won the affections of his sweetheart. Setzer planned to shoot his rival and then commit suicide.

It is said that Setzer and the girl were engaged and that he had rented a house and had partly furnished it. A few days ago the girl turned him down. He then secured a pistol and went to the girl's home looking for his rival, whom he expected to find there. According to reports he planned to kill his rival and then turn the pistol on himself and end it all. Failing to find the rival, he created much excitement. Friends disarmed him until he had quieted down.

NATIONAL THRIFT STAMP WEEK TO BEGIN MARCH 1

State superintendents of schools in every State in the Fifth Federal Reserve district have been notified that National Thrift Stamp Week will be observed beginning Monday, March 1, and ending Saturday, March 6.

The war organization for this territory is sending out instructions, literature and pledge cards to superintendents, and will co-operate in every way to awaken new interest on the part of parents and pupils in practicing everyday thrift. The effort is intended to emphasize the value of saving regularly in small amounts. Through the press, school journals, notices on school bulletin boards, programs and in various ways the message of the 25-cent United States Thrift Stamp will be carried.

It is likely that the celebration of Thrift Stamp week in the schools will culminate Friday, March 5, with an entertainment featuring the number of Thrift Stamps each child has bought during the week and the presentation of a program based on those prepared by the treasury department for this purpose.

RAILROAD BILL READY TO BE SIGNED BY PRESIDENT

The compromise Esch-Cummins railroad bill was approved late Saturday by the House, which adopted the conference report after four hours' debate. The report was adopted by a vote of 249 to 150—a clean margin of 99 votes.

The conference report on the railroad bill was adopted late Monday by the Senate. The vote on the report, taken after several hours of debate, was 47 to 17. Thirty-two Republicans joined with 15 Democrats in voting for adoption of the conference report, while three Republicans and 14 Democrats comprised the 17 voting against it.

The bill went immediately to President Wilson, and the general opinion around the capitol was that he would sign it.

Max S. Hayes, national chairman of the labor party of the United States, Monday sent a telegram to President Wilson, voicing a protest against the proposed Cummins-Esch bill for returning the railroads to private ownership. Mr. Hayes denounced the measure as legislation for the benefit of special interests and demanded that the President veto it.

MORGENTHAU URGES PEOPLE TO FIGHT PLAN FOR TURKEY

Henry Morgenthau, former United States ambassador to Turkey, in an address at a mass meeting in Philadelphia under the auspices of the near east relief, declared that the Turk should be driven from Europe and urged the American people to make a strong protest against the outrages which he said have taken place and continue in the near east.

"The British and French politicians for selfish purposes are arranging to let the Turk remain in Constantinople," Mr. Morgenthau declared. "I believe the time has come that the American people must protest. It is a farce for the countries that professed to be fighting for justice and the self-determination of all small peoples do not wait until the blood is dry on the hand of the Turk, but take that hand while it is still streaming with the blood of murdered Armenians."

ARE GOING TO HAVE ANOTHER MEAT PACKER INQUIRY

Opening another congressional inquiry into the packing industry, and the activities of the "big five" Chicago packers, the House agriculture committee Tuesday heard Federal Trade Commissioner W. B. Colvert and Representative Anderson, Republican, of Minnesota, author of a bill carrying out recommendations of the trade commission for regulation of the industry. Some members of the committee demurred at the proposal to hold the hearings, Representative Rainey, Democrat, of Illinois, pointing out that five successive congressional inquiries had been held since 1916, while other members suggested that exceedingly extensive records of previous inquiries which cost the government \$2,000 a volume, should be considered sufficient basis for action. The vote, however, was 10 to 8 in favor of holding hearings.

CAPT. EDMUND JONES STRICKEN YESTERDAY

Capt. Edmund Jones suffered a stroke of apoplexy yesterday morning about 11 o'clock, and was not expected to live through the night. Up until the time of going to press last night he had not regained consciousness for a single moment since he was stricken. Physicians called in immediately following the stroke have given up any hope for his recovery and say that the end is a matter of a few hours only.

Capt. Jones had not come down the street nor to his office yesterday morning, but was preparing to do some work about the house when he was stricken.

ARE GOING AHEAD WITH TRIAL OF GERMANS

Preliminary proceedings in a number of cases of Germans accused of violations of the laws of war have already begun and progress is being made in the collection of documentary material, Dr. Schiffer, minister of justice, announces, according to a dispatch from Berlin. The minister said that accused persons would be tried at Leipzig by a court consisting of the customary seven judges. German witnesses will be heard in accordance with the prescriptions of criminal trial regulations and witnesses will be examined abroad if they do not care to go to Germany. It was indicated that a German examining magistrate would go to other countries to be present at the taking of evidence. Accused persons who do not respond to the summons to appear before the imperial court will have to be arrested, and German authorities will in any case do everything to expedite proceedings as far as possible. On the principle that each accused would necessarily have to be tried individually, Dr. Schiffer energetically emphasized the fact that the government regarded it an "affair of honor to punish those really guilty." The government, however, was not obeying the entente's will in carrying out this trial, he asserted, but was fulfilling the requirements of any "ordered state and its own feeling of what was just."

Examination of the official text of the last allied note sent to the German government relative to the trial of men accused of war crimes shows that a significant passage was omitted from the Paris version published in Berlin. This passage refers to a stipulation by the entente that previous verdicts at trials of German war offenders must be annulled and that they be remanded for new trials. This provision means the reopening of the Fryatt case, in which a German commission decided the execution of Fryatt, captain of a British merchantman, was not a violation of international law. The conservative pan-Germanic press unites in rejecting the allied note as wholly unacceptable and the Tagblatt expresses the belief it "is a halting place on the road leading to revision of the Versailles treaty."

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FIRST WOMAN ARRIVES WITH BODY OF HER SON

Mrs. A. Devera of Chicago, the first American mother to bring back from France the body of her son, who died in service, arrived in New York last Friday on the steamship Britannia. Her son had been buried at Marseilles. The casket, draped with an American flag, was escorted with military honors from the pier to the Pennsylvania station, to be taken to Chicago for burial. The Knights of Columbus provided a motor truck for the journey across the city after an undertaker had demanded \$45 for a hearse.

A dispatch from Washington says that the bodies of American soldiers buried in England and in the rear of the army zones in France are expected to begin to arrive in this country soon. The war department announced that 17 bodies had been disinterred in English cemeteries and were ready for shipment. This will be the first homeward movement of American soldier dead, with the exception of 111 bodies returned last November from Archangel.

MRS. CHARLES ALLEN DIED THURSDAY MORNING

Mrs. Charles Allen died early last Thursday morning following several weeks' illness. Interment was made Friday afternoon at Bellevue cemetery, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. I. W. Thomas.

Mrs. Allen, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Wall, was only 27 years old. She was gentle and kind and a very lovable woman who was possessed of many friends. Her death is greatly regretted.

Besides her husband, mother and father she is survived by three brothers, Messrs. Albert, Ned and Howard Wall, and two sisters, Misses Coline and Beatrice Wall.

WORST IS YET TO COME; BAY RUM MUST GO TOO

Bay rum, hair tonic, toilet water and similar preparations, sold and used under prohibition provisions, must be modified by the addition of chemical agents to make them unfit for beverage purposes, according to instructions J. S. Persinger, collector of internal revenue at Roanoke, Va., received from John F. Kramer, national prohibition commissioner.

WILL RECLAIM UNUSED LANDS THROUGH BOND ISSUES

Reclamation of unused lands in the West and South through a series of bond issues, operating similar to the Federal farm loan system, would be authorized by a bill introduced last week by Senator Fletcher, Democrat, of Florida. A similar measure was offered in the House by Representative Smith, Republican, of Idaho.

Under the plan \$20,000,000 worth of bonds would be sold the first year, \$30,000,000 the second, \$40,000,000 the third and \$50,000,000 the fourth year, with a total of not more than \$350,000,000.

In presenting the bill Senator Fletcher asserted money required for construction would be furnished by the investing public without any burden being placed upon the taxpayers. Working out the plan, he said, would benefit the small homesteader.

The measure represents the concert of action of the South and West for a great national, rather than a sectional, plan. The Southern interest, including the governors of States and officials of the Southern Commercial Congress, met in Washington last month and evolved a bill which the representatives of the West, under the chairmanship of Gov. Davis of Idaho, later approved.

The Southern Commercial Congress estimated that the program if adopted would make feasible the reclamation of 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 acres of land by the end of the tenth year.

"REBELLION" AGAINST DRY LAWS IN MICHIGAN

A "rebellion against prohibition" has broken out in Iron county, Michigan, and the county, led by its prosecuting attorney, is in "open revolt" against Federal authority, Maj. A. V. Dalrymple, Federal prohibition director for the central states, notified Washington Saturday, says a dispatch from Chicago.

A prohibition agent and a party of Michigan State constables were held up Feb. 19 by Iron county officials and wine they had confiscated was taken from them, according to information received in Chicago.

Maj. Dalrymple appealed to Attorney General Palmer to order warrants issued for the arrest of the prosecutor, two deputy sheriffs, two police officers and three other residents of Iron River, a mining village.

While awaiting word from Federal authorities Dalrymple issued orders for a company of picked prohibition agents to gather in Chicago preparatory to starting on an armed expedition which he declared would "clean up" Iron county.

WOMAN TO BE SPEAKER FOR WEAVER IN THE NINTH

L. L. Jenkins, Republican congressional standard bearer for the tenth district, an ardent supporter of woman suffrage, will have to face a woman speaker on the stump in the district this fall, if he accepts the challenge to be made to him by Mrs. Roberts Platt, president of the Asheville Woman's Club, and one of the prime movers in the equal suffrage cause in this State. Mrs. Platt told friends in Asheville that she planned to take the stump throughout the tenth district, at her own expense, for Congressman Weaver, who stands high in the good graces of the women of Asheville for his enthusiastic support of all equal suffrage measures which have come up before the House during his two terms there.

CRAZY MAN ROBBED STORE; TAKEN BACK TO MORGANTON

Sheriff Triplett went to Hudson Monday and placed Joe Hice in custody and took him back to the State Hospital at Morganton. Hice had escaped from Morganton some time about Christmas and had come home. His mind seemed to be in better fix and he was not taken back to the asylum. Last Saturday night he broke into the store and shop of Mr. Frank Smith, and later caused more or less excitement in the town and community. Sheriff Triplett was called and Monday he went to Hudson to take Hice back to the asylum.

ROBT. E. PEARY, DISCOVERER OF NORTH POLE, IS DEAD

Rear Admiral Robert Edwin Peary, retired, arctic explorer and discoverer of the North Pole, died at his home in Washington last Friday from pernicious anemia, from which he had suffered for several years. Admiral Peary submitted to a blood transfusion ten days before his death, which was the thirty-fifth to which he had submitted within two years, according to his physician.

COMMISSION ADVERTISES FOR BIDS ON ROAD WORK

Yadkin Valley Road from Turnpike of Beachford is First to Get Improvements; Wilkes Delays Work on Highways

Yadkin Valley road from the turnpike to Beachford is the first road in the county to come in line for improvement. Bids for its construction are now being advertised for by the Caldwell county road commission. The section of road on which bids are being asked for now is about six miles long.

Work on the link of the State highway system leading from Lenoir to Wilkesboro is being delayed now by the county commissioners of Wilkes county, according to authoritative reports reaching here from Wilkesboro. The section of this road in Caldwell has been surveyed and accepted by the State highway commission. The road accepted is along the ridge route by King's Creek. The delay in Wilkes county has been caused by the selection of this route. It seems that in Wilkes county preference was given the river road route, and since the State highway commission assured aid only on the ridge route the commissioners of that county are backing and refusing to put up the necessary 25 per cent for the road's construction.

After the State highway commission assured the Wilkes county road commissioners that the ridge route was the only road on which State and Federal aid could be given they decided to accept this location. The trouble now is with the county commissioners, who are not in sympathy with the adoption of this route and are withholding the necessary 25 per cent of the cost for construction.

REDUCED PRODUCTION OF FOOD IS FORECAST

Warning that serious risk of reduced food production impends because of high wages demanded by farm laborers, high cost of farm equipment and supplies, and pronounced movements of people from the farms to the cities, was given Tuesday by the department of agriculture on the basis of reports and letters from all sections of the country.

"The most definite of these reports come from New York state," the department's announcement said, "where records of the population of 3,775 representative farms on Feb. 1 this year and February a year ago were made by Federal and State workers. It was disclosed that during the past year the number of people on these farms decreased nearly 3 per cent, and the number of hired men decreased more than 17 per cent. If the same ratio holds for all farms in the state about 35,000 men and boys left farming to go into industries, while only about 11,000 have changed from other industries to farming. This is a more rapid movement from the farms to other industries than took place in the early part of the war."

"The same conditions in varying degrees exist in all sections, according to the Federal bureau of crop estimates, although they are not so acute farther from industrial centers."

MR. WATTS BUYS COTTON MILL IN IREDELL COUNTY

Mr. J. W. Watts of Patterson, Caldwell county, has bought the Stimpson & Steele interests at Turnersburg, Iredeed county, consisting of the cotton mill, grain mill and store, says the Statesville Landmark.

Mr. Watts has also bought from Mr. Clarence R. Stimpson the Stimpson home place at Turnersburg, consisting of the house and about 150 acres of land. The Landmark understands the total consideration was around \$100,000. Mr. Watts takes possession at once.

The cotton mill at Turnersburg is the oldest cotton mill in the county and one of the pioneer mills of the State. The mill has served successfully three generations of the Wilfred Turner family, and now for the first time its existence is in the hands of strangers to the Turner blood. The mill, now possessing 1,600 spindles, will be operated by Mr. Watts, a native of Alexander county, and a successful business man.

Mr. C. V. Henkel had an option on the property and made the deed.

CATAWBA BAKERS FIND THEY WERE FOOLED

More than 150 descendants of Joseph and Andrew Baker, who months ago were reported to have left an estate in California worth many millions of dollars, gathered in Hickory last week to receive a report on the status of this wealth and learned that it existed, so far as they were concerned, only in the imagination of northern and western geniuses. A letter from the auditor-general of Pennsylvania, to which state \$46,000,000 was said to have reverted in escheat, was read declaring that no such sum was known in Harrisburg, and that if it ever existed it was no longer tangible.

ROBBING GRAVES IN VIENNA

Systematic vandalism and robbery in cemeteries has led to demands for police protection in Vienna. Newspapers say graves and vaults there have been despoiled, articles of the slightest value stolen and coffins smashed for firewood.

NORTH CAROLINA LEADS IN STILL'S DESTROYED

Figures for the first month of prohibition enforcement under the constitutional amendment show that North Carolina led the states in the southern district in the number of stills seized and destroyed. Furthermore, the southern district led all other sections of the country in seizures. These statistics did not particularly surprise revenue office officials, as moonshining records for a long time past have shown that agents had most work to do in the southern sections, where the mountain maker of liquor has been hard to suppress.

Figures announced for North Carolina seizures during the first month, covering implements seized and destroyed, were: Distilleries, 175; still worms, 60; fermenters, 1,751; gallons of spirits, 280; gallons of molasses reported for seizure, 1,584; pounds of sugar reported, 500.

In the entire southern district, which comprises the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky, some of the total items of seizure and destruction were: Illicit stills, 445; gallons of spirits, 1,104; fermenters, 2,954; gallons of molasses reported for seizure, 2,670; number of persons arrested first month, 438.

There were no convictions recorded in the southern district because of congested dockets and delay in court processes, but trials will come along during the spring and summer. Expense of prohibition enforcement in the southern district was given as \$36,754, while the revenue bureau appraises the value of the property seized and the penalties and fines will be about \$136,000.

THE VOTE ON THE SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT IS CLOSE

Thirty-two States have ratified the woman suffrage constitutional amendment, but there is a charge of defect in one—Ohio—so that but thirty-one can be counted as sure. Five more States are necessary. Of the States yet two act, two—Florida and Tennessee—cannot act until next year, constitutional reasons preventing the legislatures meeting before that time. North Carolina and Louisiana are not expected to ratify the amendment.

The suffragists have a chance at six other States to get the five ratifications—Oklahoma, Washington, Delaware, Connecticut, Vermont and West Virginia—and they have a comfortable hope of all except Delaware. If their estimate is correct that will be just enough to put the amendment over. If one of the five should fail the amendment will not be defeated, but ratification will be delayed, so that the women would not be able to vote in this year's elections, except of course in the States where they already have the ballot. Ratification being so nearly accomplished, however, it is possible that some of the States that are in doubt or listed as opposed to the amendment, may decide to get on the band wagon and go along with the procession, says the Statesville Landmark.

GOVERNMENT SAYS THAT MEAT PRICES MUST BE LOWER

Retail meat dealers throughout the country must reduce their prices as the wholesale price of meat declines or else submit their books to the Federal agents for investigation of their profits. This definition of the government's attitude was announced Sunday night by Attorney General Palmer, according to a dispatch from Chicago. Instructions to serve the notice on all retail meat dealers have been sent to every United States district, he said.

"For three months the price of meat has been falling," said Mr. Palmer. "The retail dealers have claimed that their supplies were old stock purchased at the higher prices. The old stocks should be exhausted by this time, and unless the price to the consumer comes down we will have to look into the question of the dealers' profits."

Mr. Palmer's pronouncement on the meat price situation followed the publication by the Institute of American Meat Packers of a bulletin announcing the practical cessation of foreign trade as a result of the adverse exchange situation. Wholesale meat prices at the Chicago yards dropped—to pre-war levels for some grades—following the publication of the bulletin.

SAYS LABOR PARTY WILL RUIN LABOR MOVEMENT

Formation of a political labor party would be "detrimental to the interests of labor and exactly in line with that which is most ardently desired by those who seek to oppress labor," Samuel Gompers declared in a letter to William Mitch of Terre Haute, Ind., a leader in the Indiana State labor party, made public in Washington. Mr. Gompers wrote in reply to a telegram from Mitch and his assistants supporting the action of the Indiana State labor party in opposing the political declaration of the American Federation of Labor in calling on organized working men to elect their friends and defeat their enemies. Mitch's telegram declared in favor of making the fight solely through a labor party.

KILLS MAN WHO SAID "TO HELL WITH U. S.," ACQUITTED

It took a Hammond, Ind., jury two minutes last Friday to acquit Frank Pedroni, an Italian, who admitted he killed Frank Petrich. Pedroni, a naturalized citizen of 17 years, had an argument over an Austro-Italian claims with Petrich, who is said to have been an unaturalized "red." During the argument Petrich said: "To hell with the United States," and Pedroni shot him dead.

TWO IMPORTANT BUSINESS CHANGES THE PAST WEEK

Messrs. George K. Moose and James T. Pritchett Buy Interest in Lenoir Drug Co.—The Hoover Bros. Buy Brickyard

Two important business changes marked the business life of Lenoir during the past week. George K. Moose, prescription man for the Lenoir Drug Company, and James T. Pritchett, a young attorney, bought a third interest each in the Lenoir Drug Company. The other business change was that of Garland and Ray Hoover buying the brickyard machinery of Powell Bros.

In the drug store transaction Dr. Coffey, who owned a half interest, has sold his entire holdings, and Mr. J. R. McNairy, who held the other half interest, has sold a portion of his holdings, making it a partnership of three equal shares.

The purchase of the Powell Bros. brickyard machinery was consummated several days ago. The new owners have bought a boundary of brick clay just at the foot of the Spanhour hill, just west of town, and are now moving the machinery to this new location. They plan to begin operations by the middle of the coming month.

ONE RESERVATION READOPTED BY THE SENATE

The Senate last Saturday re-adopted the first of the reservations attached to the peace treaty in November. The reservation relates to withdrawal from membership in the league, providing that this nation shall be the sole judge whether its obligations have been fulfilled in case it desires to withdraw, and that notice of withdrawal may be given by a concurrent resolution of Congress. The vote on its adoption was 45 to 20, ten Democrats joining the solid Republican line-up supporting it. Four of these Senators had stood on all previous roll calls steadfastly against any qualification of the treaty.

It was by a bare majority, 33 to 32, that the Senate rejected the change in the reservation framed by Republican leaders and submitted by Senator Lodge as part of his compromise plan. Under the amendment either the President or a majority of Congress could have given notice of the nation's withdrawal, a modification which Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, the administration leader, denounced as making the reservation more objectionable than it had been before.

LABOR UNIONS ARE CALLED TO MEET MARCH 22

Central labor unions over the country were requested Tuesday by the American Federation of Labor's political campaign committee to meet March 22 to select local committees of five to conduct in their communities' labor campaigns "to elect its friends and defeat its enemies."

"Labor must make this campaign memorable," said the request. "It must strain every fiber to achieve success. Your organization has a place in the ranks; it has a responsibility to meet which must be met. In order that there might be nationwide action at the earliest possible moment labor's national non-partisan campaign committee requests that every central body call a meeting to be held on March 22, 1920, at which a committee of five of your able and devoted members should be appointed. Your committee will manage the local non-partisan political campaign in your districts in accord with the national committee."

WOULD HAVE STATES MAKE OWN BEER AND WINE LAWS

Amendment of the Volstead prohibition enforcement act so as to permit the States, by referendum, to authorize sale of 2.75 per cent beer and 10 per cent wine was proposed in a bill introduced a few days ago by Representative Minahan, Democrat, of New Jersey.

"My bill," said Mr. Minahan, "merely provides for a sane, reasonable and logical method of enforcing the prohibition constitutional amendment. It is utterly repugnant to the American spirit to impose arbitrary and rigid restrictions as to their personal habits upon the American people in a particular community which are manifestly contrary to the wishes of the people of that community."

DANIELS AND M'LEAN ARE NOT AFTER THE GOVERNORSHIP

A. W. McLean and Secretary Joseph Daniels have denied reports to the effect that they would be candidates for governor of North Carolina in 1924. Both said they knew no basis for the report, which was printed in an eastern North Carolina paper. Secretary Daniels said he expects to return to Raleigh and resume charge of the News and Observer when his term of office as secretary of the navy expires.

BOYS STOLE MILLIONS

Joe and Irving Gluck, brothers and Wall street messenger boys, have confessed that they turned over to Nicholas Arnstein, alleged head of the \$5,000,000 Wall street bond robbery plot, at least \$2,300,000 in stolen securities, it was announced in New York at the district attorney's office. The boys made the confession, it was said, because they claimed Arnstein "held out" on them.