

Disturbance in Essen; French Increase Troops

Two French Soldiers Wounded When German Police Fire on Them Following a Brawl in Cafe.

TANKS ARE SENT INTO THE CITY

Several Cases of Attempted Sabotage Reported During the Night From Various Parts of the Ruhr.

Essen, Feb. 16 (By the Associated Press).—Two French soldiers were wounded here last night by German police who intervened in a safe altercation.

The shooting incident arose from the soldiers demanding drinks in the cafe and being met with a refusal by a waiter.

The French claim fired the first shot. A guard of French soldiers has been placed in the Essen branch of the Reichsbank but this is explained as a measure to protect the supply of electric current to the Kaiserhof Hotel.

Several cases of attempted sabotage were reported during the night from various parts of the Ruhr. One instance resulted in the death of a German worker who was shot by a security as he tried to enter the round house in the hands of occupying forces.

The acts of sabotage were directed particularly against the lines of communication.

BONAR LAW REFUSES TO GRANT DEMAND

For Transportation Facilities for the French Through the Colonies Area. London, Feb. 15.—(By the Associated Press).—Prime Minister Bonar Law at the conferences with the French which ended this afternoon, is reported to have refused transportation facilities for the French occupational forces through the British zone at Cologne.

Musical Attraction at Mt. Pleasant. There will be an opportunity to hear something quite out of the ordinary for this community at the Auditorium, Mt. Pleasant, Saturday night, February 17th, when the Tooley Opera Company will render a program.

Mr. Tooley and Miss Ward, the impresario and the soprano of the company, are pupils of Saenger and Hageman of Metropolitan fame. The company will not only sing the standard classics of grand opera but will also make revivals of the comic operas that appeal so much to laymen of music.

Concord Has Mattress Factory. The Concord Mattress Factory, a new industry for this city, has just opened its plant at No. 330 North Church street, in the building formerly occupied by the Forest Hill Garage. The plant is in charge of Mr. Chas. D. Watkins, a former Rowan County boy, who has been for the past four years in the mattress business in Birmingham, Alabama, and is an experienced mattress man.

Register of Deeds Has Many Legal Papers in His Office. (By the Associated Press.) Winston-Salem, Feb. 16.—Register of Deeds J. M. Lentz has sent out a distress signal. He has in his office over 5,000 deeds, chattel mortgages and deeds of trusts that have been recorded but have not been called for by the owners.

The New York F. C. team is a worthy foe of the crack Bethlehem Steel eleven in the American soccer league championship race.

Important Evidence is Given in Thomas Trial

Salisbury, Feb. 16.—A number of witnesses, both for the state and defense, were heard in the O. G. Thomas case here yesterday. Noble Lawing was the most important state witness and the Seizer children were the most important defense witnesses.

Court met at 9:20 o'clock this morning and adjourned at 5 o'clock and adjourned for the week-end Saturday at 2 p. m.

Mrs. Robert Lowe, alleged to have been with Thomas in his car when Allen was shot, was expected to reach here tonight from Nashville. The first witness for the state this morning was J. W. Swing, Kannapolis policeman, who testified to having been called from the police station when Allen was killed.

Swing testified that he reached the scene quickly, he stated, and examined Allen. Found him lying on his face in the road, with bullet wounds in breast and back. Searched him and did not find any weapon, except a small knife in his pocket.

Allen, he said, had a Ford switch key in his right hand. Allen's shirt, a khaki colored garment, with two bullet holes in front and back, was exhibited in evidence, and identified by Swing as the one the slayer man was wearing when he was shot.

During the exhibition of Allen's shirt Mrs. Allen, sitting in the rear of the state's attorneys, was seen to sob quietly, keeping her handkerchief to her eyes.

Swing testified that he went back to police headquarters, after telephoning for the sheriff and coroner, and was told that Thomas had been there to see him.

Thomas, he said, did not have a pistol at the time of the arrest, and said that he had lost his pistol, it having been stolen from a pocket in his car.

Thomas, he said, told him that Allen asked him, when he got out of his Ford and came up to where Thomas' car was parked: "Are you following me?" and Thomas, he said, answered "No." Thomas said, the policeman testified, that Allen told him to "throw up your hands."

Thomas said he then fired three times as fast as he could, and said he didn't know whether he had hit Allen.

An effort by defense, on cross examination, to establish that a number of robberies had occurred in the neighborhood prior to the shooting, was objected to by the state and ruled out by Judge Webb.

Dr. T. N. Spencer, Concord veterinarian and coroner for Cabarrus county, and Dr. S. E. Buchanan, health officer for Cabarrus county, testified as to the location of Allen's wounds, and the effect of the wound in the back and through the heart. The testimony of both men was that Allen

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China Grove Citizen is Killed When Hit By Car

Charles A. Safritz Died From Wounds Received When He Was Struck by Auto Belonging to O. G. Thomas and Driven by Oscar Overcash, of Kannapolis.

(By the Associated Press.) Salisbury, N. C., Feb. 16.—Chas. Safritz, who was injured yesterday at China Grove when struck by an automobile owned by O. G. (Red) Thomas, and driven by Oscar Overcash, died there early today, according to word received here. Thomas was not in the car.

The machine was occupied at the time by several witnesses for the defense in Thomas' trial here on charge of the murder of Arthur J. Allen, and occupants of the car said Safritz walked into the side of the machine and was knocked down. He was said to be a cotton mill worker. Coroner Newman, and a deputy sheriff have gone to China Grove to make an investigation.

According to information received here, Mr. Safritz was injured Thursday afternoon about 5:40 o'clock. The car in which he had been riding was going toward Salisbury and Mr. Overcash's car was going in the opposite direction. Just as Mr. Safritz stepped out from behind the car in which he had been riding, say the reports received here, he was struck by the Thomas car occupied by the party from Kannapolis.

Mr. James Simpson, undertaker of this city, who embalmed the body, stated that Mr. Safritz suffered a fracture to his skull, a broken collar bone and numerous bruises on his head and body.

Mr. Safritz is survived by his wife and four children: I. W. and J. W. Safritz, of China Grove, Paul Safritz, of Columbus, Ga., and Mrs. A. C. Wilhelm, of Norfolk, Va.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday morning at the China Grove Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Safritz was a member. Services will be conducted by Rev. C. P. Fisher. Mr. Safritz was well known in China Grove and the surrounding community, and was generally recognized as a man intensely interested in his Church, city and home.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at an Advance of From 4 to 8 Points. (By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 16.—The cotton market opened steady at an advance of 4 to 8 points in response to higher Liverpool cables, and bullish overnight spot advices from the South. There was scattered local realizing and some Southern selling, but it was in no great volume and the market held firm right after the call with trade interests buyers of the near months, while there was covering on the later deliveries. March sold up to 28.31 and May to 28.42 with the general list showing net advances of about 10 to 14 points.

Cotton futures opened steady: March 29.18; May 28.37; July 27.80; October 25.43; December unquoted.

CAROLINA TEAM WILL ENTER BASKETBALL MEET

Will Be Only Team in State to Seek Further Honors. (By the Associated Press.) Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 16.—Only one team in this state—the University of North Carolina—to date has signed papers signifying its intention of entering the southern intercollegiate basketball tournament to be held in Atlanta, beginning Tuesday, February 27 and ending Saturday, March 3. North Carolina State also was invited to enter, but it is understood it will decline.

Officials originally intended to hold two tournaments simultaneously, but after giving the matter careful consideration, it was ascertained that such a project would be too unwieldy for expedient management. Under this plan, a winner would have been selected from the S. I. C. and from S. I. A. A. to meet on the last night in a grand final. But the old plan used last year again will be followed and the victors in this one tournament will be declared champions of the south.

The University of North Carolina won the tournament last season by going through without a single defeat. This year, the Tar Heels, again without a regular coach, are said by many supporters to have an even stronger team. The institution has not lost a game this season. Practically the same quartet that won the last tournament will be seen in action.

Twenty-eight teams, sixteen from the Southern Intercollegiate Conference and twelve from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association, have announced they will enter. Freshmen will not be allowed to participate in the game. A silver loving cup will be presented to the winning team, while a second cup will be awarded the runner-up.

NORTH CAROLINA ASSEMBLY INVITED TO VISIT DURHAM

Entire Citizenship to Be Called Upon to Assist in Entertaining the Visitors. Durham, Feb. 15.—Should the members of the North Carolina general assembly accept Durham's invitation to visit the city for the purpose of viewing the proposed medical college site, the entire citizenship will be called upon to join in entertaining the visitors.

The invitation is to be extended by the legislature through Durham's representatives, R. O. Everette and Victor S. Bryant. Along with the invitation Durham people have requested that it be made plain to members of the general assembly that the invitation and the entertainment that may be offered is not given in the hope of adding undue influence to the medical college proposal. Durham citizens feel confident that they have the requirements for the right sort of a medical college site and are anxious for the members of the legislature to observe personally.

If the invitation is accepted Durham people will provide automobiles to bring the members of the general assembly to the city, and to return them to Raleigh. They will also provide a trip to Chapel Hill where the University of North Carolina is situated.

WANT HARDING AT GREENVILLE PARLEY

Two Great Associations Meet in South Carolina April 16 to 21. Washington, Feb. 15.—Invitation to attend the conventions of the United States Good Roads Association and the Bankhead national highway, and the United States Good Roads show to be held April 16 to 21 at Greenville, S. C., are to be extended to President Harding, Vice President Coolidge, Secretaries Wallace and Weeks and Postmaster General Work by a committee representing those organizations in a series of conferences beginning today.

The committee which also includes representatives of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, established headquarters here yesterday and prior to beginning their round of calls today, said they had informal assurances from a number of high officials that they would be present at the Greenville meetings. The committee hopes that President Harding's arrangements for his Florida trip will be made so that he will be returning to Washington about the time of the meetings and will be able to stop over in Greenville to make an address.

SCHOONER FRIENDSHIP VICTIM OF THE SEA

Heavy Seas Wreck Vessel, but it is Hoped Crew Will Be Saved. (By the Associated Press.) Norfolk, Va., Feb. 16.—The schooner Friendship, lumber-laden, out of Norfolk for New England ports was found by the coast guard cutter Manning at today barely afloat, the cutter reported by wireless to headquarters here. Heavy seas were running and the Manning was having difficulty getting a line aboard the schooner at the time the message was sent. It was hoped the crew of seven men could be taken off even though the vessel could not be towed into port.

HOUSE ORDERS INQUIRY ABOUT EMBASSY LIQUORS

Resolution Directs Secretary Mellon to Have the Inquiry Conducted. (By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 16.—An inquiry into the importation of intoxicating liquors by foreign diplomats was ordered by the House by a vote of 189 to 113.

The inquiry is directed to Secretary Mellon, who already has informed the House judiciary committee that he could not "properly" give out the information which the House now asks for.

Prohibition Officers Active in Fifth District. (By the Associated Press.) High Point, N. C., Feb. 16.—Six persons have been arrested, five incomplete distilleries destroyed and 554 gallons of whiskey seized during the past few days by prohibition agents operating in the fifth division, according to R. B. Sams, chief.

Waves in the sea only effect a layer of water equal in depth to their own length from one crest to the next.

Harrison Is Electrocuted in South Carolina Pen

(By the Associated Press.) Columbia, S. C., Feb. 16.—Ira Harrison was put to death at the state prison here today for his part in the murder last May of J. C. Arnette, of Columbia, in an apparently unconscious condition and was pronounced dead four minutes after the current had been turned on.

The death warrant was read to Harrison as he lay on a cot in his cell by Lane L. Bonner, a newspaper reporter. Capt. Roberts, of the prison guard, who usually performs the ceremony, was suffering with eye trouble this morning, and Bonner was especially detailed. Harrison has been

in a state of apparent unconsciousness for two months, and throughout the reading there was no sign from Harrison that he knew what was going on, although Dr. R. T. Jennings, the prison physician today again commented to Governor Thomas G. McLeod his belief that there was no reason to change his opinion that Harrison was malingering. The Rev. H. F. Seay, pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd, visited Harrison in the death cell this morning. He attempted to administer the last rites of the church to the condemned man, but Harrison did not respond.

Japan has experienced as many as 475 earthquakes in a year.

THOMAS ON STAND SAVE THE THOUGHT ALLEN WAS ROBBER

Testimony of the Defendant Furnished Chief Interest in Thomas Trial During the Morning Session.

FEARED BODILY HARM, HE SAID

Was Carrying \$800 in His Pockets and Fired When Ordered to Throw Up His Hands by Allen.

(By the Associated Press.) Salisbury, N. C., Feb. 15.—O. G. (Red) Thomas, Charlotte automobile salesman, told the jury at his trial here today that he shot Arthur J. Allen at Kannapolis, after Allen had ordered him to hold up his hands.

The defendant, who was in an automobile at the time, added that he had heard of several robberies in the neighborhood, and as he had \$800 with him, he feared he was being held up.

Thomas said he knew Allen well but on the night of the killing October 25, 1921, he did not recognize him. Thomas was en route with Mrs. Robert Lowe to a picture show, he added, and Allen was driving ahead of him. The car in front came to a stop and a man who turned out to be Allen came back to the car Thomas was driving, and demanded to know if he was being followed, Thomas said. He added that he replied "No" and this was followed by a command "Hold up your hands!"

Thomas said a pistol was lying in Mrs. Lowe's lap and he snatched it up and fired three times at the man, and then without leaving the machine drove to a boarding house where he left Mrs. Lowe. Later, he added, he went to police headquarters at Kannapolis, to report what he thought was an attempted robbery, but found no one at the police station. In a drug store he heard that there had been a killing and on his return to his boarding house he was arrested.

The account was virtually the same given at his first trial when he was convicted and sentenced to 18 years.

START ADDITION TO THE NORCOTT MILL

Ground Broken This Week For New Three Story Addition to Cotton Mill Here.

The ground has been broken for the addition to be erected by the Norcott Mill, and the excavation work is being continued with all practical rapidity. The first work was begun on Monday of this week, and the work will be rushed to completion.

The new addition to the mill will be three stories with a frontage of 80 feet. Brown and Harrf contractors of Gastonia, will erect the building. The new structure will have 6,244 twister spindles, with warpers and spoolers to match.

Belmont Cotton Mills to Increase Capacity. Belmont, Feb. 15.—With recent purchases of machinery, the Belmont mills will be increased by 48,969 spindles, the Linford Mills, incorporated, the Perfection Spinning company and the Aceme Spinning company now have each 16,432 spindles. This increase will make a total for the town of 137,412 spindles, all running day and night shifts.

This capacity will be further augmented by 31,000 spindles by the Stowe Spinning company, 21,000, and the Eagle Yarn Mills, incorporated, 10,000; the latter two mills to be built this summer active preparations being now under way for their construction.

When all of these spindles are in operation and the mills running full capacity, the town of Belmont will have a total of 168,412 spindles.

W. R. Keester Files Suit for \$10,000 Damages.

(By the Associated Press.) Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 16.—Alleging that he had received permanent injuries when struck by a street car eleven years ago, W. R. Keester, of this city, has filed suit for \$10,000 damages against the Charlotte Electric Railway company. He claims the accident was due to what he terms the carelessness of the motorman.

Lithuania Gets Memal District.

(By the Associated Press.) Paris, Feb. 16.—(By the Associated Press).—Sovereignty over the Memal district, the Baltic area detached from Germany, and since the war under allied jurisdiction, was granted Lithuania by the allied council of ambassadors today.

'Greensboro' High Girls VS. Concord High Girls

Tonight 8:00 O'clock

CITIZENS BANK TRUST COMPANY DO IT NOW Everybody knows that it is a good thing to save, that only by thrift can success come. But it is not what you KNOW that saves you. It is what you DO. Start a Savings Account today. Do it now. The doors of this strong bank are wide open to you.