

HARRIS IS NAMED TO SUCCEED WARD AND ACCEPTS JOB

Gets Appointment as Acting Postmaster in Concord in Order Issued on Thursday in Washington

TAKES UP NEW DUTY TOMORROW

Has Been Prominent in the Republican Party and Directed Campaign in Last Election.

James F. Harris, chairman of the Cabarrus county Republican executive committee, has been named acting postmaster for Concord.

The appointment came to Mr. Harris Thursday night about 6 o'clock in a telegram from First Assistant Postmaster General Bartlett.

Mr. Harris succeeds W. B. Ward, who resigned on December 15th in order to give all of his time to his wholesale business here.

The length of time he will serve under the appointment is not known by Mr. Harris, he stated this morning.

"I do not know whether I will serve the unexpired term of Mr. Ward or whether I will serve until the civil service commission calls for an examination to fill the office," he said.

Mr. Harris is one of the most prominent members of the Republican party in the county. Last year he was elected chairman of the county executive committee and was his party's nominee for chairman of the county commissioners at the last election.

Previously he had served several terms as register of deeds in the county.

The appointment of Mr. Harris as acting postmaster, his friends think means that he will keep the post indefinitely.

"Mr. Harris will take the examination if and when it is called by the civil service," one of them said, "and the fact that he was endorsed for the present appointment and received it, will have much weight no doubt when the time comes for the permanent appointment to be made."

MRS. GEORGE W. PHELPS IS FREED UNDER BOND

Charged With Killing Husband, Well Known Washington County Farmer.

Plymouth, N. C., Dec. 31.—Mrs. George W. Phelps, charged with murdering her husband, returned to her home today under a \$5,000 bond.

Mrs. Phelps was freed following habeas corpus proceedings before Judge W. M. Bond. She was committed to jail Monday without privilege of bond by recorder's court judgment.

Her daughter, Louis Pritchard, also went home today. She was admitted to bond at the original hearing, but refused to leave her mother in jail.

FORMER SENATOR DU PONT DIES AT HOME SUDDENLY

Washington, Del., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Colonel Henry A. duPont, former United States senator from Delaware, died suddenly this morning at his home near Wilmington, the result of a heart attack. He was 88 years old, and was a cousin of the present Senator T. Coleman duPont.

TURLINGTON'S DECISION Interpreted as an Unfailing Barometer of Public Opinion.

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—Z. V. Turlington of Mooreville has at last heard "his master's voice." This is the general opinion here in Raleigh as the result of the announcement that Mr. Turlington had declined to become president of the North Carolina Bible League.

At first it began to look as if the Bible League was really going to get somewhere after all, and political wisecracks for a time were really a bit worried at the outlook.

Mr. Turlington was a member of the legislature, a man of real ability with considerable legislative experience, who could easily warm things up here should he determine to respond.

Then came the announcement from somewhere—not from anyone skilled in politics, it is generally admitted—that the Fundamentalists would make an effort to run Turlington for speaker of the house on an anti-evolution platform.

Then the fact that Turlington was becoming so closely identified with his own patent religion-political organization as the North Carolina Bible League was distasteful to many, even though they were in sympathy with the ideas of the league.

What though Turlington does make a fight for an anti-evolution bill in the legislature after all? Did he not decline the new movement in the state as president of the Bible League? And what if the Rev. Dr. McKendrick Long of Mooreville, was elected president of the league instead of Turlington?

Hence they surmise that the evolution question is not destined to figure largely in forthcoming legislative proceedings.

Cotton Textile Industry Is on Very Sound Foundation.

New York, Dec. 31.—More substantial basis exists today for confidence in the fundamental soundness of the cotton textile industry than at almost any other period, in the opinion of William R. Judson, president of the association of cotton textile merchants of New York.

DENY CONVERSATION WITH THE SOVIETS ABOUT RECOGNITION

High Officials of Government Say No Effort to Negotiate With Russians Was Made.

NO RECOGNITION HAS BEEN MADE

Denial Is Answer to Story Accredited to Soviet Official Who Talked of Alleged Negotiations.

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—A story that the United States had approached the Russian soviet officials during the past year on the subject of Russian recognition was flatly denied today by the State Department.

The department authorized the statement that no approach whatever respecting recognition has been made during the year to any Moscow official. It was a direct denial of a story told in Moscow yesterday by a soviet government official, who said "tangible and palpable" recognition approaches had been made by the Washington government.

The American attitude regarding recognition remains unchanged, the department said. There would seem to be at this time no reason for negotiations, said the department.

"The American government as the soviet authorities are ready to restore the confiscated property of American citizens or make effective compensation of their losses," said the soviet authorities are prepared to repeal their decree repudiating Russia's obligations to this country and appropriate to recognize them, they can do so.

When the report of the committee on jurists was made, of which Judge W. F. Daniels is chairman, all went smoothly until the question was raised by H. G. Connor, Jr., of Wilson, as to the source of the names from which the jury list would be selected.

What if some of the names so selected are women? Mr. Connor asked. And for a few minutes there was something as nearly resembling fireworks as could be expected in such an august assemblage of superior court judges and astute baristers.

However, the waters were finally quieted when Judge W. A. Devin called the attention of the conference to the fact that the possibility of women jurors was one and for all prohibited by the constitution, and that they all were thus properly safeguarded.

But even after Judge Devin had calmed the day there was considerable nervousness evident for sometime, although the report was eventually adopted with only a few minor changes.

His principal provisions were for the creation of a jury commission of five men, charged with preparing the jury lists, so that only those of sufficient education and intelligence would be drawn for duty, and for the adoption of the "struck jury" system, whereby the judges select the bulk of the jurors, and then permits the counsel for each of the opposing sides to "strike" three of the jurors from the panel, instead of the present system of challenges.

Eye witnesses said the girl was dragged nearly 75 feet before the car could be stopped, and it backed away from the girl's body and then sped away. The child died just as a physician reached her 15 minutes later.

January Clearance Sale at Robinson's. The Annual January Clearance Sale at Robinson's will begin tomorrow, January 1.

An enterprising resident of Worcester, Massachusetts, has equipped his radio set with eight loud speakers which he has installed in the homes of eight neighbors. He charges them two dollars a month each for the service.

CITY TAX NOTICE. A penalty of one per cent will be added to your City Tax January 1st, 1927. Pay today, and save the cost.

CHAS. N. FIELD, City Tax Collector.

PROSPERITY TO CONTINUE DURING COMING YEAR

New York, Dec. 31.—I see no reason to anticipate a change of prospects a this country for the next six months, or perhaps a year.

THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

Reports Approved Will Be Submitted to the Governor and Legislature.

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—Although the meeting of the weak spots in the state's judicial structure is diagnosed and prescribed for the judicial conference was temporarily threatened.

Following the report of the committee on judicial system, is chairman, considerable discussion arose over the advisability of recommending the abolition of the rotation of superior court judges.

As a result of this the finance committee named by the commissioners has made formal demand on the road board that it produce for inspection by the committee "all books, papers, accounts, invoices, data, memoranda, records and other information" that it may possess.

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HOLIDAY NOTICE. SATURDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1927. being a legal holiday the banks of Concord will not be open for business.

CONCORD NATIONAL BANK, CABARRUS SAVINGS BANK, CITIZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY.

TEXTILE OFFICIAL SAYS STATE'S TAX POLICY NOT RIGHT

Hunter Marshall, Jr., of Cotton Association, Says Policy Not Serving Best Interests of the State.

MILLS FEEL THEY PAY TOO MUCH

Says Cotton Industry in 1926 in North Carolina Not Satisfactory.—He Blames Revaluation Act.

Charlotte, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The taxation policy of North Carolina is not serving "the best interests of the state" and is "putting the brakes on industrial expansion," Hunter Marshall, Jr., secretary and treasurer of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association, said in a statement issued here today.

He said that the association believes that "their own industry is suffering from tax discrimination against corporations."

Mr. Marshall's statement reviewed the unsatisfactory history of the cotton manufacturing industry in 1926. He expressed doubt that any important improvement in general conditions affecting the textile manufacturing industry will occur during 1927.

He urged that the state remove the tax burden on the industry, and that other southern states have waked up and are making attractive appeals to these industries and are getting them."

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DIAZ FORCES FIND LIBERAL SOLDIERS FORCING FIGHTING

Civil War in Nicaragua Has Progressed to Serious Stage for Conservative Troopers.

DIAZ CHARGES MEXICAN AID

He Insists the Liberals Are Getting Aid in Revolution From the Mexican Government.

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The civil war in Nicaragua, judging from credible advice, apparently has progressed to a serious stage, for the conservative forces of President Diaz, coupled with the news that an American consular had been established in the neutral zones, the later lifted, and a reiteration of Diaz's charges that the Sacasa liberals were receiving aid from Mexico, detailed word has come telling of the severity of the defeat of President Diaz's troops on the east coast, and of plans of the liberal army to march on Managua, the country's capital, in the interior.

Meanwhile Sacasa, in a message to the Associated Press, declares the landing of American naval forces in Nicaragua was unnecessary, since no lives or property needed protection, and adds that the "real" purpose of the move was to protect the "de facto" government of Adolfo Diaz, who he said were bringing to industrial expansion, asserting that "other southern states have waked up and are making attractive appeals to these industries and are getting them."

Pedro J. Zepeda, Sacasa's chief agent in Mexico City, was authority for the statement that the liberal thieftain who has been recognized by Mexico as preparing to march on Managua, seat of Diaz, who has been accorded American recognition with absolute confidence of victory.

Diaz's defeat in the last few days fighting in which seventy have been reported killed on both sides, was ascribed by the President himself in a Managua dispatch to poor communication, his orders to withdraw two or three days before the battle having been delayed until after the fighting began. He knew his forces were outnumbered, he said, and it was useless to "put up a fight."

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HIGH WAGES; BIG CROP TO KEEP US PROSPEROUS

President, The American Y. Co., Ltd. (Written for International Service)

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT DRILLING WELLS

Consult the State Geologist and Save Lots of Trouble.

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—If schools and individuals would not undertake to drill wells without consulting the state geologist, they would save thousands of dollars and would find water without having to bore through hundreds of feet of dry granite," according to H. J. Bryson, geologist of the Department of Conservation and Development.

As examples, Mr. Bryson cites two instances in Granville county where two schools expended nearly \$1,200 in trying to drill wells in a vein of solid granite, where water would not have been found in thousands of feet of drilling.

If the authorities at the Creedmore and Sten high schools had only consulted the records in our offices, and permitted one of our experts to go over the situation with them, they could have saved a large sum of money and could have had water at the same time," according to Mr. Bryson.

At Creedmore high school a well was drilled to a depth of 340 feet some time ago, but virtually no water, aside from what was gathered from seepage, was obtained, and the well now is virtually abandoned.

At Sten the well was bored to a depth of 109 1/2 feet, but little water was found and the well since abandoned. In both wells water was first struck at a depth of 20 feet, but the drilling was continued in the hope that a better flow would be struck.

As a result of the situation at Creedmore, another well six feet square, and 60 feet, was dug, and this well now supplies the water for drinking, but is entirely insufficient for supplying water for sewage.

Owing to the greater surface in the larger, shallow well, the flow is much greater than in the deep well, supplying a reservoir of about 8,000 gallons.

Thus the report of the geologist, made after investigating conditions both at Creedmore and Sten, and abandoned, shows an almost complete absence of water in the lower levels and that only comparatively shallow wells can be made successfully, and that even then the flow is small.

The water in these localities is of meteoric origin, according to Mr. Bryson, which penetrates the pores and cavities of the regolith and bed rock, forming a more or less saturated zone, whose upper limit is known as the water table. This saturation in this particular area is between 20 feet and 60 feet, the rock below that level being too compact to contain much water.

The solution to the water problem at the two schools is given by the geologist in the sinking of two or three wells, more shallow and with larger lateral surfaces. Reservoirs formed by the several wells would form storage space for a supply in proportion to the dimensions of the bodies of the wells and sufficient needs of the schools.

Had these facts been determined in advance, the schools might have saved the \$2,000 expenditure in the vain search for water at deep levels and have provided the additional shallow wells that now must be dug.

A. C. L. Trains Discontinued. Wilmington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Three trains operated between Fayetteville and Wilmington, and Wilmington and New Bern have been discontinued by the Atlantic Coast Line with permission of the State Corporation Commission, it was announced today at the general offices of the company.

Weather Forecast. Fair, warmer tonight; Saturday partly cloudy. Fresh southwest and west winds.

RAIL OFFICIAL IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE OF ROADS

J. R. Kenly, of Atlantic Coast Line, Thinks the Traffic in Southeast Will Continue Heavy.

OTHER OFFICIALS OPTIMISTIC, TOO

Mr. Kenly Says All Rail Officials Enter the New Year Confident of Good Business.

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Despite the situation in the South, brought about by the slump in cotton prices, there is reason to believe that traffic in the Southeast will continue heavy, according to J. R. Kenly, President of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company in a statement given to Railway Age and made available here today.

Railway executives in all parts of the country join with Mr. Kenly in a cheerful view of business prospects in forecasts published in Railway Age. They do not predict any such large increases in freight business as occurred in 1926, but the consensus is that the heavy movement of traffic will continue.

Mr. Kenly says that "there is reason to believe that during 1927 traffic will continue heavy." Material progress is being made toward financing that will be warehouses for future marketing, and he believes that the present situation may result in benefitting the farmers' position by bringing him to a realization of the need of a better balanced system of agriculture.

THE COTTON MARKET. Opened Steady Today at Advance of 1 Point to Decline of 2 Points.

New York, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The cotton market opened steady today at an advance of 1 point to a decline of 2 points. Some overnight buying orders developed, and probably a little buying influenced by relatively steady Liverpool cables, but the initial demand was soon supplied by realizing combined with Southern selling and selling for both Liverpool and continental account.

By the end of the first hour March had declined from 12.97 to 12.86, the general market showing net losses of about 9 to 10 points.

Buying tapered off after the initial orders had been supplied, and there was probably some selling on belief that the more favorable weather now reported in the South would be reflected by increased hedge selling here next week.

Cotton futures opened steady: Jan. 12.80; March 12.95; May 13.15; July 13.27; Oct. 13.43.

WHITE DENIES HE HAS DONE ANYTHING WRONG. Says Audit of Books Will Show No Shortage in His Accounts.

Gastonia, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Assertion that a full audit of his books would show nothing wrong was the only comment James H. White, tax collector of the Dallas township, Gaston county, would make today to charges by the county commission and county attorney that discrepancies totaling \$29,470.73 had been found in his books. Other than this he declined to comment.

The commission and county attorney yesterday issued a statement saying that auditors had found discrepancies in Mr. White's books over a period of years. It was said that he is bonded for \$53,000 with a number of individuals on his bond.

State Senator A. E. Woltz, attorney for White, said that there was no real shortage shown by the audit, as it has proceeded up to the present. He asserted that a shortage could not exist until a thorough audit had been made of the county's books and White's bondsmen officially notified.

The statement issued yesterday said that John Eck and Company, public accountants, had been going over White's books. Members of the United States Congress are better paid than any other national legislators in the world. New Year's Eve Celebration. Concord Theatre. 11:30 TONIGHT Dorothy Mackail Jack Mulhall.