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FARM BOSS TELLS HOW HE HELPED KILL ELEVEN MEN

WAS IMPELLED BY FEAR

Clyde Manning, Negro, Star Witness Against John Williams on Trial for Life in Connection With Alleged Killing of Eleven Men When Investigations Were On.

Covington, Ga., April 7.—Evidence in the trial of John S. Williams charged with murder of one of 11 negroes who met death after an investigation was started on his farm into alleged peonage was concluded here today.

The only witness for the defense was Williams himself who told the jury, "I am as innocent as a man can be."

The last two witnesses for the state corroborated the statement of Manning who stated that while employed as farm boss he assisted in killing eleven men.

Williams took the stand to make a statement in his own behalf.

"I have never had any kind of criminal charge against me or my boys" was Williams' first statement. He said his four grown sons were among the first in the country to answer the country's call to war.

"Like most of the farmers I have bonded out negroes and worked them."

He said he paid these men wages. He then told of the Federal investigation which started last February. He then asked to be told exactly what peonage was and said on being told that working bonded negroes was what he told the agent he might be technically guilty and that most Georgia farmers were guilty of such actions.

Covington, Ga., April 6.—Fear for his own life was the motive that prompted Clyde Manning, negro farm boss, to help kill eleven negro farm hands employed on the Jasper county plantation of John S. Williams, the negro told the jury trying Williams in Newton county superior court here today. Manning asserted on cross-examination he did not want to help kill them, but was afraid to disobey Williams, who, he declared, was trying to do away with the negroes fear they might testify regarding peonage conditions on the Williams farm.

"They wasn't a-bothering me," said Manning, a coal-black, stockily built man of about 150 pounds. (Continued on page 6)

WOMEN REFUSE TO ATTEND COUNCIL

Episcopal Women Decline Right of Representation in Council.

Edenton, April 6.—Episcopal women of the Diocese of East Carolina today declined with thanks the intimation that they may be given representation in the council and accorded the privilege of participation in the deliberations. The second day of the council was marked by strict attention to business, most of the matters of importance before the body being disposed of.

Legislation designed to meet the requirements of the Church pension fund in a more efficient manner was enacted after much discussion. The council disposed of this matter by directing the vestries of the different parishes and missions of the Diocese to accept pension assessments as part of the minister's salary, and charging the ministers with the duty of remitting their own assessments. This action was taken after several years of misunderstanding and in view of the fact that some ministers of the Diocese were in danger of losing their insurance.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET BRILLIANT AFFAIR

SPEECH OF MR. DANIELS

Most Pleasing. Drew Picture of His Boyhood Days When He Lived in Wilson and the Town as It Was Then and Held His Audience in Rapt Attention.

The banquet of the chamber of commerce last evening was one of the most successful and most brilliant affairs of the kind ever held in Wilson. Of course the drawing card was Hon. Josephus Daniels, ex-secretary of the navy, who has returned to Raleigh to take personal charge of the News and Observer.

But that was not all. Every feature of the occasion was most delightful. The ladies had done their part eminently satisfactorily.

Three long tables had been provided the length of the spacious hall of the Y. M. C. A. rooms and decorated with beautiful flowers around which were seated nearly 200 guests, which made a scene not soon to be forgotten. The menu of delicious barbecue and fixings, with salads, pickles, olives, and cake and cream for desert served with well timed despatch by a number of the ladies of the city was all that could be desired.

Mr. Calvin Woodard again demonstrated his superb ability as toast master, and gave a program for the evening that was hard to beat. Prior to the address of Mr. Daniels there were a number of five minute speeches by leaders in their respective lines of calling and these gentlemen interestingly presented facts about Wilson which were not only illuminating to Mr. Daniels but to our own people as well. That Mr. Daniels appreciated this information was apparent in his address, for he used much of this to refresh his memory as he covered the past as he remembered Wilson as a boy, and went to the Wilson Collegiate Institute where he was educated, and helped his mother keep post-office, or was captain of the Swift football team, which he declared was the greatest honor of his youth and one that he appreciated the most.

Prior to the banquet, Mr. Daniels was presented to the guests of the evening by Mess Calvin Woodard and Graham Woodard, and to the other members of the receiving line composed of Mr. Louis Tomlinson, president of the chamber of commerce and his wife, Mr. Johnson King, vice president of the chamber, and Mrs. King, and Mr. and Mrs. Graham Woodard who entertained Mr. Daniels while in the city. Mr. Woodard was also chairman of the entertainment committee. He was assisted in this work by Messrs. Crawford, Scott and Gold.

The speakers of the evening and directors of the organization were seated at a cross table at the head of the room and this placed them in plain view of all the other guests. The occasion was enlivened with excellent music from the Wilson theatre orchestra.

Mr. Woodard introduced the speakers with fitting and appropriate remarks, and confined the speeches to a maximum of five minutes. They stayed very well within bounds and covered their subjects with short, snappy speeches, full of interesting matter.

The invocation was delivered by Rev. F. S. Love, pastor of the Methodist church, and the first speaker of the evening was Mr. S. G. Mewborn, president of the Branch Banking and Trust company, who talked of Wilson and her banks. Only a few years ago Wilson had only two banks with a capital and surplus of \$250,000, and now there are eleven in this county, with a capital and surplus of more than a million dollars. He paid a tribute to the business acumen of the people of (Continued on page 2)

MORRISON SAYS THERE WILL BE NO SPECIAL SESSION

SALE OF BONDS TALKED

If Five Per Cent Advalem Tax Should be Added It Would Not Bring Into Treasury More Than Million Dollars, and Collections Would Fall Short of That.

(By Max Abernethy).

Raleigh, April 7.—There will be no special session of the General Assembly during the present calendar year, in the opinion of Governor Cameron Morrison, who is probably as well qualified to speak on the subject as any since his excellency and no other would issue the call in the event it was thought the legislators ought to assemble before 1923.

Governor Morrison has made this plain to newspaper men and has asked that the reading portion of North Carolina be disillusioned as to the "special session talk." The suggestion has not reached the governor from any of his advisers in the council of State nor from the men upon whom he depended at the regular session in getting his program adopted. The governor is anxious that the public understand that a special session, if he should call it together, would be powerless to do more than levy a five cent advalem tax since the constitution limits the levy.

This five cents tax on property, the governor points out, if levied would not bring into the State treasury more than one million dollars and at the present rate the county boards are authorizing horizontal reductions in land valuations the total amount collected would fall far short of that amount. Nor will a five cents advalem tax overturn the money market within 24 hours.

It is the opinion of Governor Morrison that the five cents advalem tax is worth more to the State in (Continued on page 6)

RAILWAY MEN SUPPORT MINERS

Miners Leaders Refuse to Order Pump Men and Engineers to Resume Work.

London, April 7.—The national union of railway today unanimously to support coal miners in their strike. The leaders of the Miners union who conferred with Prime Minister Lloyd George refused to order the pump men and engineers in the mines affected by the coal strike to resume work pending a settlement of the strike.

As a result of these refusals the miners and employers will not meet today.

KAUFF RULED OUT.

Chicago, April 7.—Benny Kauff outfield with the New York Nationals today was declared ineligible to play in organized baseball by Commissioner Landis, because of the indictments returned against him in New York, charging him with the theft of an automobile.

SHOWERS.



For North Carolina: Unsettled weather tonight and Friday with probable showers in the east and central portions with not much change in temperature and fresh nor'easter winds.

WILL NOT ALLOW REDUCTION WAGES UNSKILLED LABOR

BOARD DENIES REDUCTION

Railroad Recently Requested Permission to Put Cut of 17 to 31 Per Cent Into Effect April 1. Labor Board Refuses Such a Reduction on New York Central.

Chicago, April 7.—Permission to make provisional reduction of wages of unskilled labor on the New York Central Railroad was denied by the Railway Labor board today.

The Railway recently requested permission to put a cut of 17 to 31 per cent into effect on April 1. The dispute was taken to the labor board after the railways and employees had conferred.

COUNTRY HOME FOR EX-PRESIDENT WILSON

Philadelphia, April 6.—Former President Woodrow Wilson will have a handsome country home near Washington, it was learned today.

FAYETTEVILLE WOMAN COMMITS SUICIDE

Fayetteville, April 6.—Mrs. Stella Wade Maulsby, wife of Vernon Maulsby, well known transfer man of this city, died in the Highsmith hospital this morning from the effects of seven bichloride of mercury tablets taken Saturday. Ill health is said to have been the cause of her suicide. She leaves three children.

YIELD OF WINTER WHEAT.

Washington, April 7.—The forecast of the yield of winter wheat is 621,000,000 bushels was made today by the Department of Agriculture basing their estimate on the condition of the crop April 1 which was 91.

WHISKEY BOTTLE CAUSES A PANIC

Explodes in Pocket of a Detective and Breaks up the Court.

New York, April 7.—New York's night court was busy as the result of the police state prohibition law and adjourned temporarily in disorder when a quart bottle of confiscated liquor exploded in the pocket of a detective.

The detective stood before the magistrate reporting a man who with bowed head was confessing he was guilty of dealing in whiskey.

"Where's the evidence" asked the Court.

"The detective's hand moved toward his pocket. Following a loud report some one shouted "bomb" and a rush for the door ensued. The detective was hurled to the floor as was his prisoner. The magistrate and his assistants returned to the court only after being apprised of the cause of the explosion.

TWO PERSONS KILLED SEVERAL INJURED IN WRECK

Lexington, Ky., April 6.—Two persons were killed and several injured in a wreck on the Royal Palm limited, below Somerset, Ky., about 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, according to word received here tonight by H. C. King, division passenger agent of the Southern railway.

The train was bound from Jacksonville, Fla., to Chicago.

IN ERUPTION

Naples, April 6.—Mount Vesuvius is in active eruption. The eruption is most violent in 15 years. It is accompanied by internal rumblings.

DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED WARNING TO ALL BUSINESS

WARNING BY DEPARTMENT

Country Should Take Notice of "A New Day and a New Way" and Those Who Have Been Guilty of Illegal Practices and Should Not "Close Their Eyes to the Law".

Washington, April 7.—A general warning to business that the department of justice will countenance no violation of the law was sounded today by Attorney General Daugherty.

The country, Mr. Daugherty said should "take notice of a new day and a new way" and that those who had been guilty of illegal practices should "not close their eyes" to the law.

His statement he added was "a modest but emphatic warning to those for whom it was intended and could be regarded as opportunity for all of those who should mend their ways to do so."

The Attorney said the department of justice did not intend to harass business in any way but did intend to enforce the law.

Daugherty pointed out that while the Leverage Law was incompetent the department could still proceed under the Sherman anti-trust law.

MARINE AIRPLANES ARE ON THEIR WAY

Washington, April 7.—The two airplanes piloted by marine aviators now making a blaze-making trail from Washington to the Virgin Islands arrived at Guantanamo at 2:40 yesterday afternoon.

MR. HUGH DORTCH SWORN IN.

Mr. Hugh Dortch of Goldsboro a prominent young attorney of that city was sworn in this evening by Judge Connor who is holding the federal term of court here.

MARKETS

COTTON

New York, April 7.—The cotton market opened barely steady at a decline of 11 to 14 points owing to less favorable labor news and disappointing late cables from Liverpool which reacted sharply after early advance. July sold off to 12.22 after the first call.

New York April 7.—Cotton futures opened barely steady. May 11.75, July 12.25, October 12.85, December 13.10, January 13.18.

The market at noon was as follows: January 13.30, May 11.72, July 12.24, October 12.80, December 13.12.

The market closed at 3 p. m. as follows: Jan. 13.30, March 13.40, May 11.78, July 12.32, Oct. 12.90, Dec. 13.22.

Spots Wilson market 10c.

STOCKS

New York, April 7.—Early dealings in the stock market today showed no definite tendencies although advances outnumbered the declines. There were gains of from 1 to 2 points in Mexican petroleum and United States rubber which were the outstanding features. The rails were inclined to ease and recent pressure against European oils were resumed.

EARLY STRAWBERRY SEASON THIS YEAR

Chadbourn, April 6.—Three carloads of strawberries left for northern points last night, being the earliest shipments of any considerable quantity from the berry section in several years. The season usually opens around the middle of April, though it has been known to open as early as April 1st. Indications are that the present fruit and vegetable crop in the Wilmington and Chadbourn districts will be a record breaker. The recent cool weather did no damage of any consequence to these crops.

POLICE CHIEFS WARNED TO WATCH STOCK PEDDLERS

WADE ISSUES WARNING

State Department of Insurance is Contemplating an Intensive Campaign to be Waged Against Activities of Unlicensed Stock Salesmen. The Warnings Sent to Police.

Raleigh, April 7.—An intensive campaign contemplated by the state department of insurance, against activities of unlicensed stock salesmen, began when Commissioner Wade sent telegrams to 34 police chiefs that watch be kept for "alleged wild cat" stock peddlers.

The telegram authorized the arrest of any person offering any wild cat stock for sale saying that no license had been issued "blue sky" salesmen.

URGE WILSON FARMERS TO RAISE COWS AND HOGS.

Mr. B. T. Ferguson, farm demonstration agent for Wilson county, staged a worth-while meeting at the farm of Mr. L. P. Woodard this afternoon with Mr. A. C. Kimrey and Mr. W. W. Shay of the department of agriculture at Raleigh as speakers. A number of farmers and their wives were in attendance.

Mr. Kimrey urged every family in the county to have a cow. The plea for the cow was brought home by talk of Mr. Kimrey on the value of milk as a food. Mr. Kimrey said milk was the one perfect food nature had furnished. It was healthful and especially nourishing, and yet too many fail to provide this necessary food for their table. Mr. Kimrey says if he can get the householder to realize the importance of milk as a food he will be able to see every householder in the county the owner of a cow.

Mr. Shay spoke on the subject of hog, good and bad. Hogs as well as cows should be raised in Wilson county to a greater extent. The farmer should raise his own food, his milk and his meat. Therefore in addition to the family cow there should be the family porker. Mr. Shay told how to raise hogs to secure the best results, going into the details of the art of swine breeding.

ATTENDING KIWANIS MEETING

Messrs. Albert Oettinger and Needham Herring representing the Wilson Kiwanis Club left this afternoon to attend a meeting of the Rocky Mount Kiwanis Club tonight.

FOUNTAIN STORE WAS DESTROYED

Fire Probably of Incendiary Origin Destroyed Store and Entire Contents.

The store, building and contents, of R. A. Gardner and Company at Fountain was destroyed by fire last night probably of incendiary origin.

When the fire was discovered about 4 o'clock this morning, the roof was falling in, and nothing could be done to save the structure or contents.

The building was worth \$12,000 its contents were estimated at \$45,000. There was insurance, the exact amount of which could not be learned today. The store carried on a general mercantile business.

he origin of the fire has not been determined. However, it is stated that during the night a noise was heard at the store, and there is the suspicion that robbers set fire to the building to cover their theft.

No other buildings in Fountain were damaged by the fire.

Nine bishops and heads of the principals of the Non-Conformist churches in Great Britain have sent a request for peace in Ireland.