

THE WILSON TIMES

PRICE: \$1.50 PER YEAR

WILSON, N. C., TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1923

Vol. 27; No. 24

Peking Government Must Answer For The Capture Of Americans

A SERIOUS SITUATION

Reports from Shanghai Are to the Effect that One American Was Killed When Bandits Held up a Shanghai-Peking Express Train and Carried off 150 Passengers; a Large Number of American Tourists Were Captured; the Women Captives Have Been Released it is Reported

Washington, May 7.—A situation apparently regarded as seriously menacing good relations between the United States and the Peking government in China was described today by American Minister Schurman in the first official report to reach the state department regarding the capture of American citizens by bandits near the Shantung border yesterday.

Mr. Schurman is said to have already made demands on his own responsibility and it is understood he will be instructed by the government here to pursue the most vigorous course to secure the release of the prisoners unharm.

The report was prepared by Mr. Schurman on the basis of information furnished him by American citizens who was on the spot when the bandits attacked the tourists train on which many Americans were riding. It was indicated so far as known name of the prisoners had been harmed.

Minister Schurman report was dated midnight, May 6th, and described the situation as very serious.

Should any American lose his life the state department is ready to make vigorous demands on the Peking authorities for restitution. Not only will suitable apologies be required but indemnity must be paid and those responsible must be punished if good relations between the two governments are to continue.

In any case the United States will insist that more effective steps be taken in the future to protect Americans who are in China on legitimate errands.

American Killed.

Shanghai, May 7.—An American was killed by the bandits who held up a Shanghai-Peking express train near the Shantung border and carried off the 150 passengers early yesterday according to a message from Nishihui but all of the women captives including Miss Lucy Aldrich, sister-in-law of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., have been released.

The men still held are said to be in great danger. The message said the bandits had notified the authorities that all the men among the foreign captives would be killed unless troops were withdrawn.

Miss McFadden and Miss Corrali were released with Miss Aldrich the report added. Troops were pressing the bandits on both sides at latest advice.

Peking, May 7.—Robert Scripps, the American newspaper publisher, is reported among the captives taken by the train bandits operating on the Shantung border.

London, May 7.—A Reuter's dispatch from Shanghai says the following Americans were on the train held up by Chinese bandits near the border. A. L. Zimmerman, V. Haimovitch, L. Friedmann, J. A. Henley, L. Solomon, Mr. and Mrs. Pinger and two children, J. P. Powell, Major Allen with Mrs. Allen and child, Miss L. T. Aldrich, Miss McFadden, Miss Schonberg, Messrs. F. and E. Elias and E. Gensburger.

REVISED LIST OF RELIEF DIRECTORS

There Will be a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wilson Relief Association This Evening at Eight O'clock.

There will be a meeting of the board of directors of the Wilson Relief Association this evening at eight o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce rooms. Every member is expected to attend.

The following is a revised list of the members of the board:

- Elder S. B. Donny, President.
- Messrs. Elmer Ottlinger, W. Pres.
- Edwin Warren, Treas.
- Mrs. J. E. Barrett, General Sec.
- Mrs. H. E. Pillars, Recording Sec.
- Messrs. T. A. Hinnant, City Clerk.
- E. F. Killett, Mayor.
- A. N. Daniel, Chairman City Board.
- J. W. Dalley, Pres. Chamber of Commerce.
- A. B. Carroll, F. M. Bridgers, Pres. Kiwanis Club.
- Dick Grantham, Pres. Rotary Club.
- Mrs. A. A. Basye, Pres. Women's Club.
- Mrs. W. A. Lucas, Pres. Business and Professional Woman's Club.
- Mrs. J. Edward Woodard, Mr. Thomas J. Hackney, Mrs. W. T. Clark.

WALL STREET UPSET BY WORTHLESS CHECKS

New York, May 7.—Prices on the New York stock exchange were sent tumbling today by reaction of heavy buying started on a flood of orders which it was disclosed was backed by worthless checks drawn on Pennsylvania Banks. A number of worthless checks were received by Wall Street. One was for \$15,000 drawn on the Keystone National Bank of Reading, Pa., to cover buying orders in Westinghouse, Readings and American Car and Foundry. Others accompanied orders to buy New York Central stock.

Reports from Philadelphia and Boston said brokers in those cities had received similar bogus orders. The checks in almost every case

forged certificate which tricked some of the brokers into executing buying orders for large blocks of stock. Selling operations started when the fraud was discovered sent prices down, practically the entire list being carried to new low levels.

WALTER BETHEA KILLS A NEGRO

Shot Him Saturday Night on Farm of Mr. Benaja Scott Four Miles From Lucama. Claims in Self Defense

Walter Bethea, col., is in the jail here charged with the murder of Pete Fields another negro of near Lucama.

The murder occurred Saturday night about eleven o'clock at the home of Bethea's father, R. D. Bethea, on the farm of Mr. Benaja Scott.

The following story of the encounter is told by Bethea. It seems that Bethea and a negro named James Stevenson had an argument sometime ago, and Fields and a crowd of negroes met Bethea at Lucama Saturday night and tried to get him to fight, and Bethea walked away from the crowd and went to his father's home. Stevenson and Fields followed him and Fields had a gun, and followed him into the house. When Fields walked into the room, Bethea walked into a back room, and Fields still followed and jumped on him. When he did Bethea shot and killed him. The case was tried as two o'clock before Magistrate W. C. Pearson this afternoon.

At this writing we have not been able to interview any of the witnesses. Bethea went to Rocky Mt. after the shooting and was caught there yesterday at the home of his sister Mary Wiggins by Officer Lloyd Lucas and an officer from Rocky Mt.

Walter Bethea, colored, charged with first degree murder was given a preliminary hearing this afternoon before Magistrate W. C. Pearson and bound over to court without bond.

The first witness to take the stand was Queen Ella May McDonald, who testified "I saw Pete Fields standing in the door of the room, where the other folks were dancing. The next time I looked at the door Walter had Pete by the collar and had a gun in his hand. Pete was pleading with Walter not to kill him but to leave him alone."

Walter was cussing and finally pulled Pete into the room and shot him three times. Walter then left the room. I saw Pete after he was shot and I know that he was dead. Someone took the body out of the room and I didn't see it again."

Eddie Mitchell, the next witness, stated: "I was in the room where they were dancing. Pete stood in the doorway and he and Walter was talking. I couldn't understand what they said but Walter grabbed Pete and pulled him into the room and shot him three times. Walter left the room and stood on the porch a few minutes then disappeared."

"Some of the folks had been drinking, but I don't think Pete and Walter had."

Lester Harris testified: "I had a truck at the house and I heard someone say there was going to be a big fuss so I decided to leave. About the time I got the truck started I heard a couple of shots fired. When we reached the road somebody hollered for us to wait for them. One of the boys on the back of the truck said it was Walter Bethea. He got on the truck and told me to take him to Rocky Mount and get there as quick as I could, that he wanted me to get him there before sunrise. I told him I didn't have any gas and couldn't take him there, but he said take him as far as I could. I tried to pull the primer to stop the truck but it wouldn't work and I tried again and finally stopped the truck. Walter got out and went on down the road and as soon as he was gone I turned around and went back to Lucama."

WITNESS DIED MYSTERIOUSLY

Was on His Way to Testify in Florida Convict Investigation; His Wife Believes That He Was Poisoned.

Tallahassee, May 6.—Jerry Poppe, principal witness against two Leon county officials in the investigation in the death of Martin Tabert, of Manish, North Dakota, alleged to have died in a private convict camp in Florida as the result of brutal treatment, died at Quincy, Florida, last night. It was learned here today on the arrival of Mrs. Poppe with his body.

Poppe's death was due to apoplexy, Dr. R. F. Goddard, of Quincy, one of the attending physicians told the Associated Press tonight over the telephone. Mrs. Poppe, however, said that shortly before he died he muttered that he was poisoned and she called attention to the fact that he carried with him a bottle of moonshine whiskey, of which he drank freely. He had had the liquor for several days.

Poppe was on route to Pensacola to testify before a federal grand jury in connection with his peonage case developed during the investigation of Tabert's death.

Circumstances surrounding Tabert's death were the subject of an exhaustive legislative investigation. As a result of the inquiry Sheriff J. R. Jones was ordered removed from office by the senate, while Governor Hardee has recommended similar action be taken against Judge R. F. Willis of the county court.

Mrs. Poppe said her husband was stricken suddenly just outside of Quincy Friday night at a place where they intended to camp for the night. Suddenly he fell from the running board of the automobile and exclaimed, "I'm dying," according to Mrs. Poppe. His features swelled, she said, his mouth curling to one side as if paralyzed. He was taken to a hospital and throughout yesterday vented groans and sobs.

Mrs. Poppe said he was unconscious most of the time, according to the widow, but in one brief interval muttered that he was poisoned.

WEATHER.
For North Carolina, fair tonight and Tuesday, light change in temperature, gentle variable winds.

OCCUPATION TAX ON IRON ORES.

Washington, May 7.—Minnesota's occupation tax on the valuation of iron ores mined or produced in that state was declared constitutional and valid today by the Supreme Court.

ENGLAND DISAPPROVES REPARATION PROPOSALS.

London, May 7.—Great Britain will dispatch a note to Germany within 24 hours expressing disapproval of the latest reparations proposal and urging Germany to present more practical and liberal solution of the problem.

WILL INVESTIGATE DEATH OF WITNESS.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 7.—Representative Fred Davis of Leon stated today that he would introduce a concurring resolution in the house this afternoon looking to an autopsy on the body of Perry Poppe, star witness in the Tabert investigation, who died suddenly at Quincy Saturday night.

STAMPS SOLD FOR CHARITY.
Vienna, May 7.—The issuance of postage stamps for charity, having proved successful, is to be tried again.

HARDING FACES NECESSITY FOR MAKING DECISION

There Has Been a Change From the Chief Executive Who Timidly Awaited Advice of Party Leaders in Congress Before Making Any Important Move.

(By David Lawrence)
(Copyright 1923 by The Daily Times)

Washington, May 7.—Warren G. Harding is a changed man. It may have been the cumulative effect of the grinding tasks of the presidency or it may have been his recognition of the fact that with all kinds of advice, he might make the initiative and make decisions—but there has been a change from the Chief Executive who plied, almost timidly, awaited the advice of party leaders in Congress before making any important move to the president who today under the criticism of a lack of foresight has deliberately set out to be President as his judgment and conscience dictates and not as expediency and individualism in Congress would wish.

Mr. Harding was put to the test when Secretary of State Hughes came to him with the world court recommendation. "I do not attempt to pass upon the political expediency of this," he said. "Mr. Hughes is declared to have said in substance 'but here is what I believe American foreign policy should be.'"

Without consulting Secretary Hoover of the prohibition clause or any of the other members of the Cabinet who have toward the "irreconcilable" side of the argument, Mr. Harding transmitted to the Senate the letter of the Secretary of State. He didn't consult Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, nor Senator James Watson nor any of the other leaders. He went ahead on his own judgment of what ought to be done.

Since that event, Mr. Harding has had this independence of mind brought home to him in a friendly though critical spirit by some of those who feel intimate enough to discuss these matters with him. One man who is said to have been aware of some of the reasons in Mr. Harding's speech in the cabinet a few days before the President went to New York, remarked to Mr. Harding that he wondered what some of the men in the Senate would think about it. At this point, the President revealed his impudence with the idea that as President of the United States charged with the duty of developing the foreign policy of the United States and recommending treaties and protocols for the Senate to act upon he should have to submit each step to the party leaders and in effect let them run the show themselves but the political expediency thereof.

"I'm tired of being told I must consult with you and that," he is quoted as saying, "I'm tired of being told that I should be hurt and I do that I shall be benefited and so on."

On still another occasion, a man, who enjoys the confidence of the President but who occupies a subordinate position in one of the departments asked the President if it were true that he had not consulted with Secretary Woods and Denby or with Ambassador General Harry New before he made up his mind to commit himself to the world court proposition. The President replied that it was true and that the first of the members of his Cabinet knew of it with the exception of Secretary Hughes about the world court was given to the press.

"And why should I consult these men," the President is reported to have said. "I esteem them highly but I wouldn't be apt to consult the Secretary of Navy or the Postmaster General on some development in the Department of State and I do not see that there is anything unbecomingly relying on each cabinet officer for recommendations on the matters in his department."

The answer to the foregoing, of course, is that the world court proposition is not simply a Department of State affair but affects the Republic as a party politically. If then the Cabinet is to render political advice, the President tried in falling to consult his colleagues. To admit that the world court proposal is a political subject is something Mr. Harding doesn't relish. He has felt (Continued on Page 6)

THE PRINCIPLES OF ODD FELLOWSHIP ABLY DISCUSSED

Friendship, Love and Truth, the Three Links That Bind the Hearts of People, and Are the Foundation Stones of Society, the Church and State.

Rev. J. E. Stuart, pastor of the Christian church, delivered a very able and eloquent sermon yesterday morning. He was inspired by the presence of the Odd Fellows of Wilson and the singing class from the orphanage at Goldsboro that filled the chairs of the regular choir and conducted the music of the service in a very efficient and impressive manner.

There was also the regular communion and the service was most satisfactory and one of those in which it seemed the heart of God and man met, as we looked over the little ones bereft of parents, cared for by the sturdy Christian men of the world.

Mr. Stuart paid his respects to the Odd Fellows who have under their care the orphanage at Goldsboro, where the children left alone in the world have been placed by heaven in good hands to rear and educate, that they may become useful men and women, the very best work and the very best service to which any man or any organization can devote their time and attention.

Mr. Stuart began his sermon by saying that he personally, and every member of the church were delighted to have the Odd Fellows with them and also the class from the orphanage, and that the class would have charge of the song service. The music was very fine under the direction of Mrs. Taylor accompanist from the orphanage.

Mr. Stuart spoke generally from the 11th chapter of Hebrews, a wonderful chapter on faith. It describes the way that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, David and others had faith in God and received His blessings. He used this to illustrate the faith that the Odd Fellows had in God and in their institution, which enabled them with an eye of faith to see the result of their effort, and in their vision to see those splendid boys and girls making useful men and women, an honor to God, the church and the state. This is an immortal monument, which will last through all eternity he said.

Dr. Stuart said that his opinion with reference to organizations had greatly changed in the past few years. At one time he thought the church should cover the work of service, and helpfulness, but since he had noted the splendid effort put forth by such organizations as the Odd Fellows and others, and filled places that the church could not possibly fill and said he wanted to give them, the praise to which they are justly due.

He then went into the meaning of the symbols, the "All Seeing Eye" and the "Three Links," "Friendship, Love and Truth."

"The All seeing eye of God which lets nothing escape Him. He makes up His estimate of men and of groups of men, their designs and purposes, and rewards according to the way in which their hearts are moved by noble deeds. The basic commandment, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and soul and strength and thy neighbor as thyself' is taken care of in the splendid work of this great organization."

He gave a number of illustrations to prove the value of such an organization. He recalled an incident in the life of a man who had a wife and three children. The man lost his wife, and then became ill, and lost his position, and the home was mortgaged, and later he died, and the children were thrown on the resources of a cold and cruel world, but not so. He was a member of an organization like this and the members stayed around his home, waited on him during his illness, comforted him and ministered to his wants, and when he was uneasy about the children, the members said, "Don't worry about them, we have an institution in which they will be cared for. Could any thing be finer than this? Is there anything that will appeal at a throne of grace, more than this he asked? He proved it by quoting from the scriptures.

CLUB WOMEN IN ATLANTA

Atlanta, Ga., May 7.—A meeting of the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, delegates to which are gathered here for their mid-biennial council was held today. The delegates represent a membership of about two million women and are from all over the United States.

Says Southern States Will Lead In Reform

TENNIS MATCH BETWEEN CLUBS

Messrs. Arthur Ruffin and Bryce Little Will Represent Kiwanis Club, Rev. Love, Mr. Borden or Mr. Patrick Will Represent Rotary.

The tennis teams of the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs will hold a tournament at the Country Club Wednesday afternoon at 4:30. The Kiwanis Club will be represented by Messrs. Arthur Ruffin and Bryce Little. Two players will be selected from Rev. F. S. Love, Messrs. Sydney Borden or R. L. Patrick to represent the Rotary Club.

Much interest is being shown in this match and doubtless are large numbers of Rotarians, Kiwanians and other friends will be present to witness the games.

Representatives from the Lions, Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs will form baseball teams to play "inter-club" games here. It is understood the teams will be ready for play next week.

CONFESS TO KILLING GIRL

Detroit, (Mich.) May 7.—Max Novak, 19, and Edward Trzybalski, 17, confessed today the police announced that they killed Helen Yesh, 17, in a vacant lot here late Saturday night looking for when she resisted their advances.

They are said to have accused the girl on the street.

GOLEERS GATHER AT PINEHURST

Pinehurst, May 6.—Golfers from country clubs of the two Carolinas are assembling here tonight for the annual tournament of the Carolina Golf association. Teams from most of the North Carolina clubs and from the upper South Carolina clubs arrived during the day and the Charleston, S. C. team, headed by Lieutenant Commander E. K. Patton is expected in the morning.

COLORED MAN WAS INJURED

Albert King, colored, an employee of the Express Company, suffered severe injuries about noon today when he attempted to jump from an Atlantic Coast Line train near the station here and fell under the train. His left foot was badly crushed and he received injuries about the head.

After local physicians had rendered first aid the man was taken to South Rocky Mount.

WILSON ALMOST LANDED MEETING

Wilson Was Being Favorably Considered as Next Meeting Place of Federation, But Raleigh Was Anxious for It.

Wilson almost succeeded in securing the next meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs which will convene next spring. The invitation to the Federation to meet next year in Wilson was extended by Wilson at the last session of the Federation convention which closed Friday in Winston-Salem, and due recognition was given the invitation. However, Raleigh was especially anxious to obtain the Federation as Mrs. Palmer Jorman of Raleigh had just been elected president, and Wilson delegates approved Raleigh's invitation and this invitation was accepted. But it was generally understood that if it had not been for Raleigh's extended special invitation Wilson would have been selected as the next meeting place for the Federation.

The Wilson delegates to the Federation have returned home. These delegates were Messdames Eugene Davis, president of the Wilson club, P. L. Woodard, R. H. Patterson, H. G. Connor, Jr., J. J. Clark, and Miss Mary Hadley Connor.

every way that we must be interested. We cannot draw ourselves into a shell and say we will have nothing to do with others. We must help them and comfort them, and place the orphan children on a level with those more fortunate, otherwise we are not doing our duty to them, and this is what these God blessed Odd Fellows are doing.

EXPERT ON PRISONS

Dr. Hart Will Probably Take Part in Investigation of Prisons in North Carolina; Sweeping Reforms Have Been Instituted in a Number of Southern States According to Dr Hart; Conditions in Mississippi Are Said to be the Worst

White Plains, N. Y., May 7.—Prediction of a new era in which the Southern states would lead the country in the humanitarian treatment of prisoners was made today by Dr. Hastings Hart, a member of the Russell Sage foundation and former president of the American Prison Association in announcing that he might accept an invitation to investigate prison conditions in North Carolina.

Mr. Hart who has investigated prison conditions in various southern states notably Alabama, Missouri, West Virginia, Florida, South Carolina and Virginia declared that in a large number of these states there had been sweeping reforms.

Alabama and South Carolina have done more in the last few years to better conditions than any two states in the union.

The North Carolina state penitentiary and the jail at Durham he said are about the average. The convict lease system recently attacked in Florida is the result of the poverty of the southern states after the war.

Slaves Dr. Hart continued were treated by the owners like valuable horses but the attitude under the convict lease system is it will kill one convict we can get another. The road case one of the greatest evils of the lease system, Mr. Hart said is fast disappearing. It was in this case he added that convicts spent the night and conditions closely resembling those of Siberian prison camps. Conditions in Mississippi were worse than other states he had investigated.

There he declared murderers who had been sentenced for life acted as guards and were armed with high powered rifles. If one of these murderers killed a fellow convict who was trying to escape the murderer was granted a pardon according to Dr. Hart. Dr. Hart said the New Kilby penitentiary at Montgomery is in better condition than Sing Sing prison. At Columbia, S. C., are two prison farms, a state industrial school for whites and a negro reform school he said. Since he conducted an investigation there two years ago they have been well supported by the state and are beginning to pay back in results the money expended on them.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK.

Raleigh, May 7.—For South Atlantic and East Gulf States: Generally fair with temperature near or slightly below normal.

UNCLE JOE HAS BIRTHDAY PARTY

His Eighty Seventh Birthday is Celebrated by His Final Homecoming from Congress; Will Rest From Now on

Danville, Ill., May 7.—"Uncle Joe" Cannon who served Congress through two generations with a record and display of personality that has made his name and black cigar as well known to school boys as to politicians today is celebrating his 87th birthday and his home coming from his final session of Congress.

Joseph Gurnea Cannon for years an anchor of the Republican party as speaker of the house is going to rest for the remainder of his life. He is going to settle down in Danville, sit back in an easy chair in his home and let a younger man take his place in public.

"Uncle Joe" in his return home from the last session said, "I am tired. I'm going home to rest."

PROGRAM FOR THE EVENING.
Mrs. Lulu Loveland Shepard of Salt Lake City, Utah will speak tonight at 8 o'clock at the First Methodist church on "The Mormon Menace."
The board of directors of the Wilson Relief Association will meet this evening at eight o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce rooms.
Program at the Wilson theater, Dorothy Phillips in "Hurricane Gal," a two reel comedy; Frank Cornell's vaudeville company.
Program at Princess theater, Eugene O'Brien in "Worlds Apart," "Around the World in Eighteen Days" featuring Wm. Desmond.