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HINES FAVORS RAILROAD MERGER

Advocates Few Large Systems Privately Owned and Operated Under Federal Supervision—Against U. S. Ownership—Director-General Urges Five-Year Control Before Senate Committee—Immediate Release of Road Next Best Solution.

Exaggerated complaint against government railroad operation, growing out of a natural retention from war-time patriotic tension, is a "psychological factor" which makes it difficult at this time to develop a permanent solution of the railway problem, Director-General Hines said Monday in testifying before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, says a Washington dispatch.

This is one important reason, Mr. Hines said, why government operation either should be extended five years and time given for calm deliberation or the roads turned back to private management before the present 21-month period expires.

"I do not believe there is anything substantial in the argument that a five-year extension of government operation would necessarily mean government ownership," Mr. Hines said. "I personally do not believe in government ownership. I believe there can be a form of radically reconstructed private ownership, with such close government supervision, including government representation on the boards of directors, as will give the public and labor all the benefits of government ownership and at the same time will preserve the benefits of private and self-interested initiative and will avoid the political difficulties which perhaps are inseparable from government ownership."

So far as physical operations are concerned, said the Director-General, there is now no emergency which calls on the government to continue control of the railroads. He explained that the methods adopted by the Railroad Administration during the war now are open to reconsideration in light of conditions, adding that this had been Mr. McAdoo's attitude.

Mr. Hines presented the following arguments for a five-year extension: It will give advocates of government ownership full opportunity to press their views without being influenced by the temporary reaction against government control.

It will remove the necessity for undue haste in solving such a big program as the future of the railroads; it will stabilize employment and wage conditions, permit prosecution of a big program of improvements and extensions, help to take up the slack in employment and material during the critical period of readjustment;

It will protect security holders pending an ultimate solution;

It will minimize the danger of making the railroad question a purely partisan issue, to be considered in an illogical manner, in the presidential elections.

HOLLAND TO GET SHIPS BACK.

To Be Unconditionally Released Upon Return to U. S. Ports—Eighty-seven Dutch Vessels Were Requisitioned by America in War Emergency.

Dutch ships requisitioned by the American government during the war and now operated by the shipping board will be unconditionally returned to Holland as rapidly as they reach American ports at the conclusion of their present voyages.

The Dutch ships were seized in American ports last March 20, by order of President Wilson, acting in the war emergency. There were 87 of the vessels with an aggregate of 539,000 deadweight tons, but several of them were destroyed by enemy action or storms while in the service of the United States.

Under the agreement reached with the Dutch shipowners, vessels destroyed were to be replaced either by money or ships at option of the Dutch owners and liberal rates for the use of the vessels were allowed. There was no information tonight as to the exact number of the ships that had been lost or whether payment would be in money or in American tonnage. The war trade board's announcement said the release of the craft had been decided upon because the war emergency had passed and because of the wish of the board to return ships and trade to former channels and conditions as quickly as possible.

Some of the seized ships were used in the coastwise trade, replacing ships sent into the war zone. Among the 87 vessels were some of the largest of the Dutch freighters.—Washington dispatch.

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BILLS FOR MORE PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Congressmen Hood and Robinson Both Introduce Measures for Post Office Buildings in Their Districts. Mount Olive and Clinton on the List.

S. R. Winters, writing from Washington to the News and Observer, says that Representative George Hood, of Goldsboro, has introduced in the House of Representatives a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to appropriate a sum of \$35,000 for the erection of a postoffice at Mount Olive, Wayne county. Six years ago an expenditure of \$5,000 was approved by the committee on Public Buildings and Grounds for the acquisition of a public building site at Mount Olive, but the fund has not been utilized. The approval of the committee for the expenditure of \$35,000 would insure the Wayne county town a desirable site and a public building with modern appointments.

"Representative Hood has introduced a bill providing for \$5,000 for the purchase of a public building site at Clinton, Sampson county. The two items, embracing Wayne and Sampson counties, will be incorporated in the omnibus bill soon to be reported out by the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. The Congressman from the Third District of North Carolina is a member of the committee, and his influence will be effectively applied in behalf of the towns requesting federal aid for public buildings.

"Representative Hood has also introduced bills directing the Secretary of War to donate a German cannon or field piece to Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Jones, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Sampson and Wayne counties. The treasurer Gorman property will serve as a trophy in each of these counties to emphasize Eastern North Carolina's share in conquering the Hun.

Laurinburg, the county seat of Scotland, is to nurture a magnificent site and public building costing \$75,000, if the bill introduced by Representative Lee Robinson prevails. The item has been referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and will likely be incorporated in the omnibus bill."

AMERICAN FORCES OVERSEAS.

No Changes in the Composition of the Army of Occupation—Seventh Division Moved.

Washington, Feb. 4.—A new table of locations of units of the American Expeditionary forces on January 16, made public today by the War Department, showed no changes in the composition of the army of occupation, but indicated that the Fifth, Seventh, Twenty-eighth, Thirty-third and Seventy-ninth divisions of the occupying forces and the Thirty-fifth and Eighty-eighth divisions constituted the army of the line of communications.

The Seventh division was at Saizez, having been moved from Evezun and the Twenty-eighth was at Colombey-Les-Belles.

The only changes in command noted were: Major General Charles H. Martin, assigned to the Ninetieth Division, vice Brigadier General Joseph P. O'Neill, and Major General Peter E. Traub, to the Forty-first division. No commander was given for the Eighty-third division, formerly under Major General E. T. Glenn, who recently arrived home.

A re-assignment of corps and divisions gave the following as the present organization:

First Army: First corps consisting of the 36th, 78th and 80th divisions and the fifth corps, consisting of the 26th, 29th and 82nd.

Second Army: Sixth corps, comprising the fifth, seventh and 33rd divisions and the ninth corps, consisting of 35th, 79th and 88th divisions.

Third Army: Third corps, consisting of the first, second and 32nd divisions, fourth corps, comprising the third, fourth and 42nd divisions; seventh corps, consisting of the 89th and 90th divisions.

The second corps, composed of the 27th, 30th, 37th, 91st and 92nd divisions, was listed as "acting independently." The assignment of the eighth corps, comprised of the sixth, 77th and 81st divisions, was not indicated.

Priscilla Club Meets.

Kenly, Feb. 4.—Mrs. C. F. Darden entertained the Priscilla Club of Kenly last Thursday afternoon from three to five. After an hour of social chat delicious refreshments were served consisting of a salad course and cream. Mrs. L. Z. Woodard and Mrs. J. W. Darden served.

The annual election of officers was held. Mrs. J. A. Sauls was elected president to succeed Mrs. C. F. Darden, and Mrs. L. C. Wilkinson secretary to succeed Mrs. A. J. Broughton.

THE DEATH SENTENCE NOT ABOLISHED

Sanders Bill Tabled By a Vote of 27 to 17 in the Senate—State-Wide Dog Law Passed—Secretary of Navy Daniels to Address General Assembly February 13.

Raleigh, Feb. 4.—The House bill by Saunders, of Pasquotank, for the abolition of capital punishment, that the House had passed with amendments that it abolish only the death sentence in cases of arson and burglary went down in defeat this afternoon in the Senate before an onslaught of Senators, who believed that this is no time for letting up on the safeguards for the homes in the State. Senator Stevens, of Buncombe, reflected the sentiment of many when he warned that this is no time for such legislation when the growing menace of bolshevism is beginning to show its gruesome shadow across the world. The Senate committee had amended that the death sentence be retained for train wrecking as well as for criminal assault and murder as the House had passed. The original bill had proposed complete abolition of the death sentence for any crime. The vote that tabled the bill was 17 to 27. This was after the amendment to retain death for train wrecking had been adopted 30 to 7.

The House passed the State-wide dog law by Ray, of Macon, with some strengthening amendments and it went to the Senate to "run the gauntlet" there after its passage in the House had elicited two lengthy debates on separate days.

All amendments to exempt counties were voted down. The only one getting through was to require the head of a family to give reports of dogs belonging to any members of the family for taxation. The bill fixes the tax at \$1 and \$2; requires all dogs to be restrained at night, makes owners responsible for depredations and carries machinery for enforcing the law which proposes to husband especially the sheep industry in this State.

The joint committee to invite Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels to address a joint session of the Assembly reported that Daniels will address these legislators February 13. In the House, Winborne introduced a bill to amend the 1913 act as to the supervision of banks and stock companies.—W. J. Martin, in Charlotte Observer.

BOON HILL NEWS NOTES.

Princeton, N. C., Feb. 5.—Mr. W. L. Hastings, from the U. S. S. Maine, is at home on furlough visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Hastings. Logan is a member of the band on his ship.

The friends of Dr. Oscar Eason will regret to learn that he has gone to Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, for treatment for diabetes. Since the doctor had a very severe case of influenza it was noticed that his health was greatly failing, until last Monday it became urgently necessary for him to receive treatment.

Dr. A. G. Woodard is trying to attend the many cases around this section in the absence of Dr. Eason, while both of them had about all the patients that they could well attend. Frank Pearce is confined at his home with influenza.

The relatives and friends of Mr. Isaac Smith will regret to learn that his condition does not improve and at present he is seriously ill. After having a severe case of influenza other complications arose, and now his recovery is not expected.

Mr. Silas Summerlin has arrived at home on a release from the navy on account of the urgent and necessary need of his services by his father.

Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Hinton and children went over to Wilson last Sunday to visit a relative who is very sick at the Moore-Herring Hospital.

Miss Minnie B. Strachan has returned home after spending a few weeks with relatives at Clayton.

Mr. O. F. Pike and family have moved to Rocky Mount, where Mr. Pike will remain in the employ of the A. C. L., as he was here.

Among the large number of our citizens who went to Raleigh Monday to hear Billy Sunday and the Hon. Josephus Daniels, were Rev. J. G. and Mrs. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Massey and Miss Agnes Massey and Miss Stencil, Mr. W. C. Massey and Mr. J. R. Ledbetter.

Masters and Masterpieces.

It is better to read and reread and read again the great masterpieces than to tax eyesight and muddy the mind by rapid and unthoughtful perusal of a very veridical of mediocre literature. Macaulay said: "I have no pleasure in books which equals that of reading over for the hundredth time the great productions which I almost know by heart."—Kind Words.

BICKETT CALLS COTTON MEETING

To Discuss Present Serious Condition of Market—To Be Held in Raleigh Next Tuesday Night—Banks May Help.

Raleigh, Feb. 4.—Headed by the signature of Governor Bickett, a call is being sent out to business men and farmers of North Carolina to attend a meeting at Raleigh, Tuesday, February 11, to discuss the present cotton situation. In addition to the signature of Governor Bickett, this call also is signed by Major Graham, commissioner of agriculture; James A. Gray, president of the North Carolina Bankers' Association, and W. J. Clark, president of the North Carolina Seaboard Line Merchants' Association. The meeting will be held either in the Wake county courthouse or in the State capitol building and will have for its purpose the planning of a safe, sane and patriotic method of securing the cost of production, plus a reasonable profit, for the unsold portion of the past cotton crops and in the one which is about to be planted.

Only those thoroughly interested in the cotton situation are asked to be present as the meeting will be held for the purpose of planning a definite program for meeting the present situation and there is no idea of those in charge to allow any unlimited oratory on the matter. It is expected that the members of the General Assembly will attend this meeting as well as the county agents of the Agricultural Extension Service, who will be in conference on that date. An effort will be made to secure the co-operation of the banks in helping the farmers over their present difficulty, with understanding that the acreage planted to cotton will be materially reduced during the coming season. The time merchants also will be asked to assist in this matter by urging those farmers who buy supplies for them that a reduction in cotton acreage is absolutely essential to secure a just price for cotton, as is grown under the existing high prices for labor and fertilizer. O. J. McConnell, specialist in cotton marketing for the agricultural extension service, is making all arrangements for the meeting with the advice and suggestion of Director B. W. Kilgore and the parties signing the official call.—F. H. Jeter.

TURNIPS FOR NOTABLES.

Mr. Barbour, of Johnston County, Presents Huge Ones to Messrs. Sunday and Daniels.

Mr. Percy W. Barbour, of Clayton, yesterday left at the News and Observer office two huge turnips for presentation one to Rev. Billy Sunday and the other to Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels. The turnips weighed five and a half pounds each and were among the largest ever exhibited here. Some of those who saw the Clayton vegetables said they were the largest in the State, but N. Buckner, secretary of the Asheville Board of Trade, chanced to view them and said that while they were of pretty good size he had some on exhibit in the Board of Trade at Asheville that weighed over six pounds. However, Mr. Barbour's turnips were quite large enough to elicit hearty expressions of thanks from the recipients.—News and Observer.

SANDERS CHAPEL NOTES.

P. A. Holland and J. W. Holland killed two pigs last week that weighed 894 pounds.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Gardner last week and left them a new boarder. It's a boy.

Mrs. D. Hooper Sanders and children are spending a few days in Raleigh.

Miss Maggie Parrish and Miss Mabel Wilkinson, of Wilson's Mills, spent last week with Miss Vara Parrish, who is teaching at Pomona.

Messrs. Almon and Ludolph Powell, who have been in the military service for several months, are home again.

Mr. Frank Whitley, who has been quite sick, is improving.

Pomona and Princeton teams played a game of basket ball last Friday with Pomona the winner.

The box party at Pomona was a big success. There were 27 boxes and the sum of \$153.50 was realized.

Clocks to Be Set Forward.

In accordance with the provisions of the Daylight Saving Act, signed by President Wilson on March 19, 1918, under which it is ordered that "at 2 o'clock ante meridian of the last Sunday in March of each year, the standard time of each zone shall be advanced one hour," the clocks throughout the United States will be set forward one hour on Sunday, March 30, next.

CAMPAIGN FOR LESS COTTON ACREAGE

State Executives Confer at New Orleans at Behest of Governor Cooper, of South Carolina, to Help the Cotton Situation.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 4.—Governors of the cotton growing States will be urged to set in motion a campaign for reduction of the 1919 cotton acreage which will reach every individual grower, as the result of a conference here today of delegates from South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

Resolution adopted by the conference plans a working organization in every county in the South and a speaking and publicity campaign modeled on Liberty Loan campaign methods, urging substitution of food stuffs for cotton this year to an extent reducing the cotton acreage from 37,000,000 acres to 25,000,000 acres.

The Governor of each cotton growing State was asked by the conference to appoint a farmer and banker, also a business man, to be members of a board to direct the campaign. Immediate action was requested, as it was pointed out that the work to be done must be accomplished within the next four weeks.

Another resolution urging the farmers "not to sell the balance of the present cotton crop for less than 30 cents a pound basis middling."

The meeting here today was called at the instance of Governor Cooper of South Carolina. L. I. Guion, one of the South Carolina delegates, presided.

Mr. Guion said that the aim of the conference "is to put the South on a business basis by reducing the cotton produced to a quantity which will be absorbed at a reasonably profitable price, and with the acreage thus freed produce food enough to sustain the South."

CLAYTON NEWS.

Clayton, N. C., Feb. 5.—Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Ellis spent the past week-end visiting Miss Julia Austin at Memorial Hospital, Richmond, Va.

Dr. J. H. Austin, of Four Oaks, came up Sunday for the day. He was accompanied home in the afternoon by his wife and children, who spent the past week with Mrs. M. E. Gattis.

Mr. and Mrs. Gurney Edgerton left yesterday for their home near Kenly, after visiting relatives here for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Hall spent this week-end with Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Yelverton at Fremont.

Mr. N. Clyde Wall, of Fort Hill, Oklahoma, arrived Sunday for ten days. He was called home on account of the death of his father, which came as a shock to relatives and friends last Thursday.

Mr. A. V. Gulley went to Smithfield Tuesday after spending the week-end here with his family.

Quite a number of our town people went to Raleigh Monday to see the sham battle at Camp Polk, also to hear Billy Sunday in the auditorium at night.

Mr. Hugh Austin came home from Fort Thomas, Kentucky, a few days ago with an honorable discharge. He is now back at the same job with Austin-Stephenson Co. at Smithfield. His friends and relatives are glad to welcome him home again.

Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Wall, of Smithfield, were in town Sunday.

The Baptist as well as all the other people of Clayton regret very much the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Hamby from our midst. They have been with us for eight years and have done a great work for us. To know them, as well as their four bright children, was 'o love them. They have fulfilled their mission and gained the friendship and love of all the people of the community. Mr. Hamby preached here Sunday for the last time. In taking up his new field of work we wish for him the very best of luck and in saying the last good-bye may it not be for always, for they have a standing invitation to any home in town. May we remember his good advice and profit by it even in his absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Smith are expecting to move out to the bungalow at "Rest More," formerly owned by Mr. E. R. Gulley. They hope to move this week.

Mr. J. D. Barbour left Tuesday night for northern markets, where he will purchase the spring line of goods for the firm of J. G. Barbour & Sons. On Tuesday night Mrs. B. A. Hucutt entertained at her home here in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Hamby, who leave this week for their new field of work.

Mr. R. W. Sanders has purchased the home of Mrs. J. W. Massey on Main street and in the future will move his family there.

Don't speak of what you are going to do. Do it.—Selected.

DEATH CLAIMS DR. KEMP BATTLE

Well Known Educator Dies in Chapel Hill. Aged 87—Former President of States University Succumbs to Attack of Heart Trouble.

Chapel Hill, Feb. 4.—Dr. Kemp Plummer Battle, ex-president of the University of North Carolina, professor emeritus of history since 1907, a member of one of the most distinguished families of the State and loved and esteemed by three generations of university students, died at his home here this afternoon at 5:15 o'clock. He had been confined to his room for the past month, but with the indomitable resolution and pluck characteristic of his whole life he refused to remain in bed until Saturday, when his condition became critical. Heart trouble brought the end.

He celebrated his eighty-seventh birthday on December 19. The funeral will be held in Raleigh Thursday, in the afternoon. To alumni and students of the University he was fondly known as the "Grand Old Man." For some 25 years it has been the pleasure of each graduating class to receive Doctor Battle's benediction in the form of a farewell address of admonition on Monday morning of commencement week. He has been a familiar figure on the streets of Chapel Hill, going and coming from the postoffice with his cane in hand. He always had a genial smile and pleasant word for every one.

Among his more notable literary contributions are a two-volume history of the University, a picture of him working on the history sketched by one of his closest friends and contemporaries, Prof. Collier Cobb, being found in volume seven of the North Carolina Beckett; a history of the North Carolina Supreme Court, a history of Raleigh, and a paper on "Trials and Judicial Proceedings of the New Testament." Surviving are four sons, Kemp P. Battle, Jr., of Raleigh; Thomas H., of Rocky Mount; Herbert B., of Montgomery, Ala.; and William H., of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mrs. Charles Phillips, an aunt in her nineties, who has lived with him since the death of his wife 16 years ago, also survives.

Kemp Plummer Battle was born on a farm in Franklin county, North Carolina, December 19, 1831. Most of his youth was spent in the village of Louisburg. He was fond of athletic sports and hunting, but also showed early a love of reading and ambition not to be excelled in his studies. In childhood and youth he never had tasks set before him, but voluntarily cut wood a great deal for exercise, and today one of his chief pleasures in life were walks in the woods with an axe, blazing trails, opening paths and trimming the forest trees. His great love of nature had kept him young, his walks in the woods were never neglected, and the care of the birds that are attracted to his home in great numbers were one of his chief delights.

He practiced law in Raleigh until 1875, when he was selected by the board of trustees elected by the Legislature to take the lead in reorganizing the University, and a year later he was made its president—Charlotte Observer.

UNIFORM TRAINING SYSTEM IN SCHOOLS.

Representatives of State Institutions Agree on Program of Study in the Future in the States Schools.

Raleigh, Feb. 5.—Representatives of all the colleges and Teachers' Training Schools of the State that receive State aid and hold summer school for teachers, in conference with State Superintendent of Education Brooks tonight announced a complete unification of this work for all the institutions, including the State University, A. and E. College, State Normal, East Carolina Training School, Culowee Normal, and Asheville Normal and Industrial school.

Their plan is to have a uniform system of instruction and training for all the institutions, co-operate with the State Board of Examiners and institute workers, and discontinue the former practice of holding a two-weeks' institute course during the progress of the regular summer school planned to have the fullest co-operation of the division of the State department of education. They endorsed, pending department school bills for six months' minimum terms, the budget system and the proposed legislation as to teacher training.—Charlotte Observer.

Nationalities in New York.

The population of New York City includes almost 20,000 Chinese, 600,000 Italians, 1,250,000 Jews, 40,000 Russians, 80,000 Hungarians, 85,000 Bohemians, 30,000 Syrians, 8,000 Greeks and 3,000 Japanese.