

# The Herald Smithfield

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## NEW TURN IN N. C. PRISON SITUATION

### Gov. Morrison Withdraws Request for Investigation By Welfare Board

The situation in regard to prison conditions in North Carolina has taken a new turn in that Governor Morrison has withdrawn his request for an investigation by the state board of charities and public welfare, stating that he will assume "full responsibility" for the inquiry himself. This decision was announced after a lengthy conference with the council of state. The letters from the governor to Mrs. Johnson, State Superintendent of Public Welfare, and to Attorney General Manning, which we are herewith publishing, set forth the reasons for the withdrawal and outline the plan of procedure now proposed.

Governor Morrison's letter to Mrs. Johnson follows:

"My dear Mrs. Johnson:  
"I desire to withdraw my request for an investigation by your board into prison conditions in the State. I have decided that my own official responsibility about this matter is greater than I had at first realized. I have, therefore, determined to assume full responsibility in the matter and to take far reaching action without delay.

Your board, under the law, can only make a report to me for submission to the next general assembly or for my guidance and assistance. I have decided that I do not desire a report from you for the purpose of influencing my own action, and as the general assembly will not meet for some time, I am unwilling to wait until that time for action.

"I have been giving serious study to the whole subject and feel that I have both the legal power and the disposition to take action in the premises.

Circumstances are such that I really think your investigation and report would embarrass me rather than aid me in the course I have firmly fixed my mind upon.

"I am thoroughly in accord with modern and progressive thought upon the subject of prison reform and, under the law as it is now written, I am satisfied the whole system can be put in modern and up to date shape. I am going to exercise all the power I have and I am quite sure it is sufficient to bring this about.

"Very truly yours,  
"CAMERON MORRISON."  
Letter to Manning

The following letter was sent to Attorney General Manning:

"Hon. James S. Manning,  
"Attorney General of North Carolina,  
"Raleigh, N. C.  
"My Dear Judge:

"I will thank you to get in touch with the solicitors of the state at your earliest convenience and request them to cooperate with you in an investigation of the county prisons and camps in which prisoners are kept when being worked.

"I desire the most thorough investigation made through regular government channels.

"I want you to assist personally in the prosecution of any breach of law, or inhuman or cruel treatment of prisoners. If your force, together with the solicitors, is not sufficient to vindicate the law and punish any failure of duty, I will be glad to consider a request from you for the employment of special counsel to assist.

"Very truly yours,  
"CAMERON MORRISON."

## 48 ARE RENDERED HOMELESS BY FIRE

Rocky Mount, May 12.—Forty-eight persons, all negroes, were rendered homeless this afternoon by a disastrous fire which destroyed seven frame dwellings and menaced adjacent property at South Rocky Mount. While the houses were all inexpensive frame structures, the occupants lost all their furnishings and personal effects and the total is estimated to range between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

### Price Crude Oil Cut.

Pittsburgh, May 14.—Another cut of 25 cents a barrel in the price of the principal grades of crude oil was announced today.

## RUSSIAN LEADERS READY FOR A WAR

### Firey Oratory and Demonstrations Characterize Public Meeting

Moscow, May 12.—M. Tchitcherin, the soviet foreign minister, dressed in the uniform of a member of the Red army and wearing a Red cross decoration, was the chief speaker at a great meeting held in a theatre here today.

The theatre was crowded to the doors, while in the streets thousands who had taken part in a demonstration listened to speakers from motor trucks and balconies, all of whom made reference to what they termed the war threat against Russia in the British note; in the assassination of Vorovsky at Lausanne and in other recent international development.

Referring to Vorovsky, M. Tchitcherin said: "This is a symptom of the general European situation. The direct responsibility rests with the Swiss government, which took no preventive measures; while the moral responsibility is on England, France and Italy, who originally invited the Russian delegation to Lausanne."

Regarding the British note, which he characterized as insolent, Tchitcherin said: "We are getting telegrams that British warships are already in the White sea; perhaps by now they have opened hostilities against our ships."

"The note contains false facts and messages improperly deciphered. We must reply calmly and firmly. Russia will not go back a single step before the demands we therefore offer a conference. We are ready to discuss the losses sustained by British citizens in 1920, but we will render a bill to England for all those England shot during the intervention in the north. We desire peace, and do not want a break, but we will wait until the enemy attack us."

The foreign minister was followed by War Minister Trotzky, who told the cheering throng that Russia wanted peace, but the Red Russian army, was ready, if necessary.

"If war comes, it will be a long one; it will delay the building up of our country for many years but the Red army, which wants peace, will carry out its duty until the end."

He suggested that perhaps more than note writing was going on in the border states, while the border atmosphere was thickening. These states would be the first to feel the brunt if war came.

The meeting adopted a resolution to send a letter to J. Ramsey McDonald, leader of the labor opposition in the house of commons, declaring that Russia would not yield to an ultimatum, but was ready to come to an agreement if England was ready to negotiate, and also a letter to Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, head of the league of nations relief in Russia, asking him to use his influence against a break and possible war.—Associated Press.

## MISSING MAN FOUND IN A GRAVEL PIT

PETERSBURG, Va., May 14.—James E. Griffin, owner of a bathing resort near here, who mysteriously disappeared last Monday night, while driving along a road in his automobile, was found today in a gravel pit, handcuffed and unconscious. He was taken to a hospital where his condition is said to be serious. Physicians said he was suffering from fear and exposure.

Griffin, for several weeks prior to his disappearance, had received threats supposedly from a gang of bootleggers whom he had forbidden to enter his resort. He was on his way home from the bathing beach when he disappeared.

## AMERICAN AMONG 6 KILLED WHEN AIRPLANE FALLS

AMIENS, France, May 14.—(By the Associated Press.)—Six persons, including a New Yorker named Schwab, were killed in the fall of a passenger airplane at Conay, thirteen miles south of this city today.

The home town paper is more than paper and ink—it's a part of your



REV. H. A. HUMBLE

PASTOR OF HAY STREET METHODIST CHURCH, FAYETTEVILLE

Mr. Humble is assisting the pastor of the Methodist church at Four Oaks in a revival meeting which has been going on for a week. He is preaching the gospel with power and in simplicity. The meeting is being well attended and much interest is being manifested. Quite a number of professions of faith in Christ were made at the Sunday school hour last Sunday. At the eleven o'clock hour four persons gave their names for church membership.

The meeting will last throughout this week with services at 9:30 in the morning and at 8:00 o'clock at night. Anyone desiring to know the way of life will be profited by attending any of these services.

## WILLARD AND FIRPO MATCHED BY RICKARD

Labor Day Fight To Decide Contender For Jack Dempsey's Crown

New York, May 12.—Jess Willard and Luis Firpo, victors in the two star bouts for the milk fund boxing carnival today at the Yankee stadium will be matched in a 15-round contest to decide a championship opponent for Jack Dempsey, Promoter Tex Rickard announced at the conclusion of the show.

The fight, he said, probably would be held in the Yankee stadium June 30.

"I intend to match Willard and Firpo just as soon as possible," Rickard declared, "and the winner probably will get a crack at Dempsey on Labor Day, either at the Yankee Stadium or Boyle's Thirty Acres. Both are ready and anxious to sign and I hope to arrange the contest for the Saturday before the fourth."

Rickard said that in his opinion Willard had staged a remarkable comeback, considering the odds he was against, Firpo, he said, had proved beyond a doubt that he is one of the greatest natural fighters uncovered in years.

## TEX. TORNADO TAKES HEAVY DEATH TOLL

Relief Workers Report Finding Dead And Injured; Cattle and Crops Damaged

Big Springs, Tex., May 14.—Fifty persons were killed and about one hundred injured, three miles from Colorado, Texas, when a tornado swept this section, according to reports telephoned here today. Since this news was received communication has been cut off due to damage to telephone and telegraph lines. The worst damage is forty miles from Big Springs, it was reported.

It is believed damage to crop and cattle is heavy and that the loss of life and property is heavier in the country district than in the town of Colorado, according to the unconfirmed reports. Relief parties left here in automobiles this morning.

J. H. Green, chairman of Red Cross workers here, said the injured probably will reach 100 and probably as many as 50 are killed."

Doctors and nurses from a dozen nearby towns have been appealed to and are searching in the devastated area.



IT IS THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE SMITHFIELD STUDIO THAT WE ARE ABLE TO SHOW THIS PICTURE OF THE OLD SOLDIERS WHO GATHERED IN SMITHFIELD LAST WEEK.

## NEGRO FARMERS HOLD A MEETING IN U. S. CHEERFUL

### Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon State Demonstration Agt. Makes an Address

The negroes of Johnston County are moving forward along agricultural and home economical lines with an encouraging pace. They now have an all time farm demonstration agent and an all time home demonstration agent, L. R. Sanders and Lucy Wade holding the respective positions. These agents have been working among the Johnston negroes now for five or six months, and last Saturday they gave a general demonstration at the Smithfield Training School which reflected much credit upon their betterment activities.

During the few months in which county, the county has been partial this work has been carried on in this organized into farm and home economic clubs, and these were represented in the Saturday meeting. Each club present had some kind of an exhibit for the occasion.

In addition to their regular club reports and club exhibits they had an interesting programme planned, which was carried out according to arrangements. Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, State Director of Home Economics, of Raleigh; and L. E. Hall, District Farm Demonstration Agent, of Raleigh, were present and made speeches. Misses Minnie Lee Garrison and Mary E. Wells were present and also made short talks.

Mrs. McKimmon's speech was replete with good sound judgment and advice for the negro women present. She told her hearers that they were the faithful few who must go back to ranks and preach the gospel of progress to their race. The health of the State lay largely in the hands of the cooks and that diet was a road to health. "Any woman," she said, "who can learn to feed a family, who comes to know that the garden and the cow are the two most health giving agencies, has learned one of life's most life-giving lessons."

Mrs. McKimmon's speech was followed by L. E. Hall's speech of ten minutes. He knew his subject and his hearers and from the first his audience was pleased with his common sense presentation of his speech. Mrs. W. H. Lyon, president of the Smithfield Woman's Club, was present and announced that her club was desirous of advancing better modes of living among the negroes of Smithfield, and as an incentive to home improvement, she offered for the club a valuable prize to the family keeping through the coming summer the best kept yard.

Following the programme a lunch was served by members of the clubs.

## TWO WOMEN KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Henderson, May 13.—Mrs. W. G. Coleman, 47, and Miss Nannie Fleming, 43, sisters, of Macon, were killed shortly after 5 o'clock this afternoon at Middlesex, six miles north of this city, when a Seaboard Air Line north-bound freight train struck a small sedan in which they were riding.

Their two brothers, R. D. Fleming and Thomas Fleming, riding with them, were seriously injured. The former, who was driving the car, suffering a fractured knee and cuts and bruises about the head and hands and the latter a broken shoulder and injuries to his back with other minor bruises.

Mrs. Coleman was killed instantly while Miss Fleming lived more than an hour, but was unconscious.

The two brothers were brought to a hospital in this city, where it was said their injuries were not regarded as fatal. The automobile was demolished, being strewn along the track for some 300 yards.

R. D. Fleming, who was able to converse with friends, said his engine stalled as he drove upon the track, the rails standing about three inches above the road crossing and blocking the car as it slowed down. Eye witnesses said it was impossible for the engineer to stop his train before striking the car. Fleming said he did not know a train was approaching until his car had stalled.

Did you ever wear a collar that didn't fit? Think how much worse off is a mule or a horse with a collar that is too large or too small.

## BUSINESS OUTLOOK IN U. S. CHEERFUL

### Walter H. Savory Gives His Views on Situation After Trip Across U. S.

"American business is cheerful all the way through the county. Values are high, and there is no indication that they are inflated. Optimism is the note most noticeable, without discord, both in the United States and Canada."

This is the meat of the volume of information collected by Walter H. Savory, personal representative of the vice-president and general manager of the Mergenthaler Linotype company, on his return from an annual trip that has taken him from coast to coast, and put him in touch with local conditions in all parts of the two countries from Florida to British Columbia and Quebec to Los Angeles.

"Industries in the east are practically all working at full capacity," said Mr. Savory. "The report places of the South and of California have been overrun all winter, with people who have money to spend.

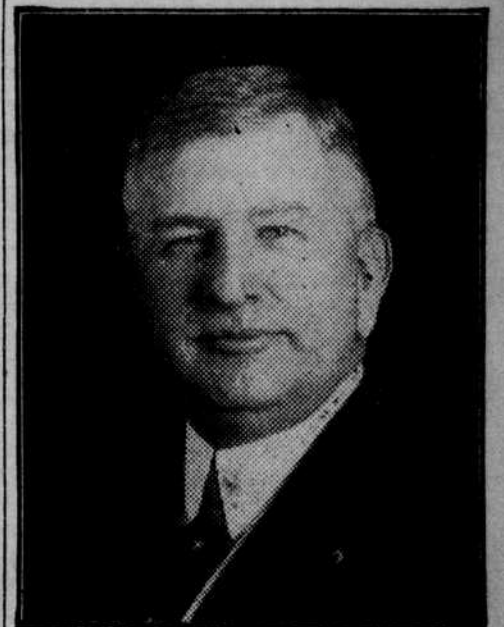
"Crops in all sections have been satisfactory and available at good prices.

"Even the cattle country of the plains, hardest hit last year and year before of all localities, is feeling better, and looking for a steady rise of its financial barometer.

"Texas is a veritable caldron of bubbling, effervescing activity. Her oil interests, cement industry, cattle men, cotton growers, are all hustling to keep up with the demands of their clients.

"The whole West coast from Los Angeles to Vancouver is teeming with business so great that real estate values are at a high level.

"California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia are all anticipating a remarkable year—in tourist business, in building of all kinds, in



WALTER H. SAVORY

fruit growing and sale, in transportation.

"Mining has come back to its own in the states devoted largely to this work, and labor is well employed.

"Corn, cotton, wheat and the other staples are bringing good prices, and the outlook is for good crops.

"Everybody is hoping that the European situation may be straightened out soon, but people generally in all business are not figuring on the European situation as a necessary precursor of good times. It is rather a secondary consideration, that will make the outlook even better if it should be cleared.

"Wherever a spirit of restlessness is found, and there are few such, it may almost invariably be traced to the weather or impatience over being forced back to reasonable profits from the tremendous profit taking days post war.

"Recklessness of spending those abnormal profits became a habit, and when, perforce, that recklessness must be curbed and people drop back to normal expenditure, there is a dubiousness and a blue outlook for those who must change their habits again.

"In other words the cost of high living has been almost entirely responsible for any feeling of nervousness as to business of the immediate future. Each year this grows less, and in another year or two it ought almost to disappear.

"There's nothing the matter with fundamental business conditions of the United States or Canada. All we need is confidence in our own ability to complete the readjustment program."  
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