

## Machine Made Barrels For Potato Growers This Year

### Southern Roller, Stave and Heading Company Install Machinery Which Will Enable It Turn Out Barrels a Day and 60,000 Barrels This Season

Machine made potato barrels are now being turned out by the Southern Roller Stave & Heading Company of Elizabeth City at the rate of 500 barrels a day. By the time that the demand for these barrels reaches its peak, A. B. Houtz, owner and founder of the Southern Roller Stave & Heading Company, expects to be turning out from 1,000 to 1,200 barrels daily and his mill has contracted for sufficient raw material to make 60,000 barrels this season.

The barrel making equipment installed at Houtz's mill is the only machinery of its kind between Baltimore on the north, Birmingham on the south, and Stevens City, Virginia, on the west. To one familiar with the method of manufacturing barrels by hand in this section it is indeed a revelation to watch the newly installed machinery at Mr. Houtz's plant in operation; the method by which the barrels are made ready for use reminding one somewhat of the assembling of a fivver in one of Henry Ford's plants.

## CONVICTS ESCAPE AT PRISON CAMP

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—Eighteen convicts escaped from the State Prison Farm in Halifax County last night, according to information received here today by Prison Superintendent George Ross Post. Four were recaptured early today but the others are still at large.

You said his information was that about 200 prisoners were confined in the camp because of rain most of yesterday.

A hole was tunnelled thru the floor of the wooden structure, mortar removed from the foundation of blocks, and then a tunnel dug to the outside.

All the prisoners were counted at supper time and the break is believed to have occurred soon afterward.

A number of the escaped men were serving sentences for murder. James Ballance, serving five years for larceny, from Gates County, was wounded, according to the prison guards, but escaped across the Roanoke River.

## TOURIST TRAVEL SHOWS INCREASE

Los Angeles, Feb. 12.—Tourist travel is commencing to show steady increases and hotel men report advance reservations larger than for some time. Building construction is active, particularly in office structures, although home building also shows a gain.

## NO COTTON TODAY

New York, Feb. 12.—The cotton exchange is closed today on account of Lincoln's birthday.

In the first operation one man assembles the staves fitting them into the "raising machine" in which the barrel is set up with two temporary heavy iron hoops holding the staves in place at the bottom.

The barrel then moves over to the "windlass" where the loop of a steel cable falls over the barrel and draws the staves together at the top, as they have already been drawn together in the raising machine at the bottom. As soon as the staves have been drawn together at the top in the windlass a steel wire hoop is dropped over them binding them in place. At this stage the barrel is held together by the permanent wire hoop at the top and by the two temporary heavy iron hoops in which it was set up at the raising machine, one at the bottom of the barrel and the other and larger hoop about eight inches above the bottom.

When the barrel leaves the windlass it is dropped heavily bottom down on a circular steel plate about two inches thick and with a diameter somewhat greater than that of the barrel itself. This drop at once evens up the staves and disengages the upper and larger of the temporary iron hoops which drops off and is immediately rolled back to the raising machine to be used again.

To set up a barrel in the raising machine requires from 30 to 45 seconds. With six or more staves in each hand the operator drops them rapidly in place until the last stave is to be inserted. This last stave must be of a size to exactly complete the circumference of the bottom of the barrel, and picking one that will exactly fit takes a few seconds of time. Some times one of the staves already inserted has to be replaced with a wider or smaller stave before the fit can be made; but at it must before the operator can lift his barrel. Just as each column of type must be justified before the printer can lock his form and lift his page, the operator at the windlass is short-handed, requiring hardly more than an average of 15 seconds.

The larger iron hoops having been discarded, with the permanent wire hoop at its top and the temporary iron hoop at its bottom the barrel moves next to the trusser. Just before reaching which another permanent wire hoop is dropped over either end making, including the temporary iron hoop, four hoops in all now holding the staves in place. On the trusser all four hoops are tightened, the two middle hoops being tightened at one operation and the two end hoops at another, both operations requiring less than 10 seconds. In this operation the machine made barrel has a distinct advantage over the barrel made by hand, for instead of only one pair of hands the trusser has eight with steel fingers which, circling the barrel at regular intervals, grasp the hoop simultaneously. Four pairs of these hands function at either end of the barrel, and force first two middle wire hoops evenly toward the center of the barrel and then the two end hoops are in the same way tightened by being forced toward the center.

Leaving the trusser the barrel has three permanent wire hoops in place, one at the top, one above and two below the center beside the heavy iron hoop which still remains around the bottom. At this stage the permanent hoops are stapled by hand so that they will not slip and the staves loosen.

In the fourth step the barrel is moved over to the crozier, which is a machine for grooving the staves for the barrel bottom in the same operation with which it trims the ends of the staves. This double operation is all completed in from eight to ten seconds. In this operation the machine made barrel registers another advantage over the hand made article in that the groove is made after the barrel is put together and is,

## SHAFT REACHES ROOF OF CAVERN

### Diggers Expect Any Minute to Reach Floyd Collins and Work Steadily in Spite of Cold.

Cave City, Feb. 12.—The limestone roof in Floyd Collins' cavern was reached by the rescue shaft today.

The diggers are expecting to find the crevice of a cavern any minute which can be opened enough to dig their way to Collins.

The downdraft is stronger and rope slings are being prepared for workers to prevent them from being engulfed if the bottom of the shaft drops out.

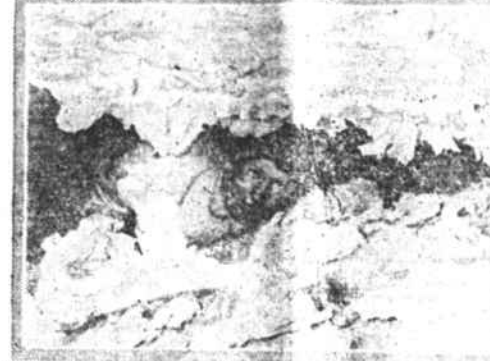
Cave City, Feb. 12.—The shaft driving toward Floyd Collins is descending inch by inch and is expected to reach Sand Cave any time.

Each crew entering the shaft in hope of sighting him but engineers say it is impossible to tell where cold weather chills the workers but fails to delay the work. Extra tents, stoves and bedding arrived today to protect volunteer miners against pneumonia.

A down draft in the shaft similar to the current down the original Sand Cave tunnel today gave workers hope that some crevice near would open into the cavern. Meanwhile the state military board continues its inquiry.

Cave City, Feb. 12.—The opinion that drillers might be nearing the sand cave tomb of Floyd Collins was expressed at 3:45 o'clock this morning, although it was admitted that hours might pass before the man is reached.

## Floyd Collins in Crevice



This remarkable photo of Floyd Collins shows him crouching in a crevice in Sand Cave first by a flashlight and then by a candle. It was taken by flashlight at another cave just below Collins' Sand Cave, eight miles from Cave City, Ky.

## ANOTHER BRIDGE HEARING TUESDAY

A telegram was received by The Advance Tuesday morning from Secretary John C. Cameron, both City Chamber of Commerce who is now in Raleigh in the interest of the Chowan River bridge bill.

## FOUR DEAD FROM GAS POISONING

Passaic, N. J., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Louise Sanders and three children were found dead from gas poisoning in the bed today by the coroner and four more were found in the room. Police believe the deaths were intentional. The woman worked in a wicker mill days and her husband at night.

## DIES AT HERTFORD

Hertford, Feb. 12.—Mrs. Anne Crook, aged 73 years, died here Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. Butler. The funeral was conducted Monday by Rev. G. V. Phillips and Rev. Joseph Elliott and interment was made in Cedarwood cemetery. Besides her daughter, Mrs. Butler, she leaves two sons, Horman Hughes of Elmhurst, N. Y., and Oscar Hughes of Atlanta, Georgia.

## Little Border Town Sees Profit In Its Reputation

### While Other Municipalities Might Rise Up and Protest, Tia Juana Finds "Alleged" Sinfulness Its Chief Stock in Trade and Doesn't Mind It

Tia Juana, Mexico, Feb. 12.—A reputation for wickedness among the border towns in the United States has been a lot of good to Tia Juana, who has profited in its chief stock in trade—sinfulness in all its aspects.

Take the case, for instance, of this little Mexican border town which whose colorful name, translated into English, means "Aunt Jane." For half a dozen years, persons with a superstitious bent have been petitioning Washington every few weeks, asking that the American border here be closed to that adventurous, seeking or curious persons. It is Uncle Sam's domain might not be tempted or lured in "Aunt Jane." It's the "hell hole" of the North American continent; sort of Sodom, Gomorrah and Monte Carlo all rolled into one.

Most any other municipality this held up to the world as a horrible example would rise up and protest, vociferously and long. Not so Tia Juana. "Aunt Jane" will never see anybody's defamatory character for calling her "wicked." Her reputation for sinfulness is her chief stock in trade—her bread and butter.

Six years ago, when she first started out to be a parish among municipalities, Tia Juana was but a little Mexican cross roads town, a lot of a dozen adobe huts, a general store and a couple of cantinas, or native saloons, and a hundred or less inhabitants. The name "municipal" or hall was one-room structure of hardened "dobe mud."

Today, because of its wicked reputation for which the name "municipal" or hall was one-room structure of hardened "dobe mud."

Except for slot machines there is no open gambling. One big gambling privilege is given—a-luck blind pig, card and craps, but there are roulette or faro bank tables and other spectacles. "His money" is as still may be found and nearly barred doors in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and other metropolitan gambling cities.

Being limited in size and a little, however, it is not Tia Juana from reaping a golden harvest. Being called "wicked" or sinful or hellish is water off the wheel. "Aunt Jane" likes it, for it's money in the bank.

## SPEECH OF LINCOLN NOW FIRST PUBLISHED

New York, Feb. 12.—The text of the speech by Abraham Lincoln delivered in Springfield, Illinois, October 30, 1858, was published today by the New York Times and is said to have never before been published here. The manuscript is said to have been taken from a copy of a copy by Lincoln's secretary, W. G. Loring.

## BESTIFTY BOY IS MAKING FINE START

Clarence Jones, Deputy Clerk of Court, Durham County, at Elizabeth City, N. C., is a lawyer with unusually bright prospects.

Clarence Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Jones of Harary, N. C., has begun his career as a lawyer with unusually bright prospects.

He had just completed his law course at the University of North Carolina and passed his State examinations when he was appointed deputy clerk of the court of Durham County. He went to Durham at once to take up his duties.

Clarence Jones finished his high school course in June 1921, winning scholastic and athletic honors here, and being exceedingly popular with young people and older folk.

His friends predict great things for him. He comes of a family who are their brains and their energies in a way to make for success. His father was at one time city manager here. He has a brother, Eldon Jones, who has been a successful chamber of commerce secretary and is now manager of a large store in a northern city. His sister, Miss Ethel Jones, is one of the city's most enthusiastic and most loved teachers of music.

In addition to her private teaching she has trained an excellent high school orchestra, the Altkraus orchestra, and has been in a large measure responsible for the excellent music at the First Baptist Church.

Clarence Jones expects in a few years to take up the further study of law at one of the northern universities.

## ROAD BILL PASSES SECOND READING

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—The Senate passed the \$200,000,000 road bill on the second reading without discussion.

The bill by Representative Johnson, introduced Monday by Rev. G. V. Phillips and Rev. Joseph Elliott and interment was made in Cedarwood cemetery. Besides her daughter, Mrs. Butler, she leaves two sons, Horman Hughes of Elmhurst, N. Y., and Oscar Hughes of Atlanta, Georgia.

## MOTOR BUS BILL IS PASSED BY HOUSE

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—The motor bus bill has passed its third and final reading in the House. A substitute measure for the Johnson measure passed on its final reading in the Senate. The House voted to recall the vote on the new judicial districts measure, which was defeated yesterday, for re-consideration.

## DOES NOT ALLOW HIGHER INTEREST

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—The proposed measure to amend Section 2305 of the Consolidated Statutes to allow money-lenders to charge eight per cent interest on special contracts will be heard by Judiciary Committee No. 1 of the House Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The bill was introduced by Representative Matthews of Mecklenburg, who has issued a statement in which he says that the purpose of this bill has been misunderstood by some. "As a matter of fact," said Representative Matthews, "this bill does not allow a higher interest rate, except on agreement, and it limits the amount that ever can be charged to eight per cent."

The bill reads in part as follows:

That Section 2305 of the Consolidated Statutes be, and the same is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "Provided, that upon special contracts in writing, signed by the party to be charged therewith, or by his agent, so great a rate as eight per cent may be charged."

## Coolidge Not In Accord With Pending Borah Bill

### Sees Grave Difficulties in Way of Return of German Property Seized During War as Provided in Measure by Chairman Foreign Relations Committee

By DAVID LAWRENCE  
(Copyright, 1925, By The Authors.)

Washington, Feb. 11.—President Coolidge sees difficulties in the way of returning at once property seized from Germans and held since the war. Senator Borah, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, has introduced a bill providing for the return of the property within 60 days after the passage of the measure.

## STEVENS LOSES SUIT FOR SEAT

### Action Brought by Former Councilman to Oust Pendleton from Utility Commission Dismissed.

The action brought by C. W. Stevens to oust Dr. A. L. Pendleton from the latter's seat on the Elizabeth City Utility Commission and have himself declared the rightful holder of Dr. Pendleton's office was dismissed by Superior Court Judge E. H. Crumaker at the close of Thursday forenoon's session of this week's term of Superior Court. The plaintiff, through counsel, promptly noted an appeal and the North Carolina Supreme Court may be called up to pass on the issue involved.

Judge Crumaker's dismissal was based on the ground that Mr. Stevens had failed to institute his action within the time limit prescribed by statute. The case for the plaintiff hinged on the meaning of induction into office, there being no question that the law requires that such an action as that brought by Mr. Stevens be instituted within 90 days after his induction and that Dr. Pendleton was sworn into office as a utility commissioner in 1923. The contention of the plaintiff, however, was that, since the Elizabeth City Utility Commission did not begin to function until the City purchased its utilities in December 1920, Dr. Pendleton's induction into office dated from the time when the commission began to function.

It was on the foregoing point that the court ruled against the plaintiff, holding that Dr. Pendleton was "inducted into office" when he was qualified for his place on the commission.

Had the court not held against the plaintiff on this issue, counsel for the defense would then have sought to show that the so-called meeting of the City Council which elected C. W. Stevens to place on the Utility Commission was not a legal meeting of that body, there being only four members of the Council present, whereas it takes five to constitute a quorum; and these four meeting without the meeting's having been duly called.

It is a fact that Mr. Stevens himself was one of the four Councilmen who constituted the so-called "rump" Council which elected Mr. Stevens Utility Commissioner and it is also a matter of record that the "rump" Council, before getting down to business on May 18 corrected the minutes of the regular session of the Council on May 7, eliminating the words "subject to the call of the Mayor," which followed "adjourned to meet" and substituting therefor "on May 18," claiming that City Clerk Snowden had not understood the adjournment motion correctly. It is also a matter of record that three of the four Councilmen constituting the "rump" Council, including Mr. Stevens himself were men ducks, having been defeated for re-election only three days prior to their meeting.

## BIG CHIEF IS HERE GUEST OF RED MEN

Ed C. Ray, of McAdenville, great senior sagamore of the Great Council of North Carolina Red Men, arrived Thursday and will be the guest of honor at a meeting of the Red Men at their hall Thursday evening, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. All Red Men are invited and urged to be present.

A complimentary dinner will be tendered the distinguished guest at the Southern Hotel by officers of the Pasquotank Tribe prior to the meeting at the hall. Mr. Ray will be in the city probably until Friday morning.

## ARRESTS ARE MADE IN BEAMAN MURDER

Wilson, Feb. 12.—A stained sweater and photographs of Clayton Beaman, who was murdered last Saturday night, found in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Volmer here yesterday, led to their arrest on a charge of connection with the slaying. Both denied knowledge of the crime to the coroner's jury.

## Deserted



Ms Mrs. Eleanor Robinson Countess says in her suit for divorce from Frederick B. Countess, Chicago broker. She says he left her a year ago. She is the daughter of Thomas Robinson, head of the Diamond Match Company.

## WORTHLESS CHECK PASSERS MAY BEWARE

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—After repeated efforts, dating back for several terms, there has been passed in the General Assembly a "worthless check" bill, introduced by Representative Matthews of Mecklenburg and sponsored by the North Carolina Merchants' Association.

This bill, now law, provides, among other things, that any person, firm or corporation who shall draw, make, utter or deliver, or purporting to be signed by such person, firm or corporation, and drawn on any bank or depository for the payment of money or its equivalent, and who shall at the time of making, drawing, uttering or delivering any such check or draft, have insufficient funds on deposit in or credits with such bank or depository with which to pay the check or draft upon its presentation and who shall fail to provide such funds or credits shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be fined or imprisoned, in the discretion of the court.

It is provided, however, that in any case where a check or draft is begun under this act the defendant shall have a right, upon application to the trial court before the trial and after payment into court of the amount in question, to have the action abated and to show that he had an account in the bank on which the check is drawn within 30 days prior to the issuance of the check, and that the check was not drawn with fraudulent intent.

The word "credits" shall be construed to be an agreement with the bank or depository upon which the check is drawn for its payment upon presentation.

## SIX INJURED IN ENGRAVING ROOM

Chicago, Feb. 12.—Six employees were injured in an explosion of chemicals in the engraving room of the Chicago Evening American today. Three young women were taken to a hospital.

## WANTS INVESTIGATE GASOLINE PRICES

Washington, Feb. 12.—Senator Trammell, Democrat of Florida, today proposed an investigation of increases in gasoline prices by the Trade Commission.

## VERDICT FOR DEFENDANT IN WATER COMPANY CASE

Damage in the sum of \$32 was awarded J. C. Gregory of El. defendant, by a jury verdict Wednesday afternoon in the suit of the Elizabeth City Water Company for an equitable valuation of property owned by the defendant and condemned to public use for the plaintiff. The plaintiff company insisted that the property in question was worth only about \$50.

In the case of the Carolina Banking & Trust Company vs. A. J. Hartley and E. S. Doster the jury found that the defendants had obtained a fund from the bank through fraud and by the verdict awarded the bank damage in the sum of \$461.69.

In the case of W. E. Hinton et al, reinstated after having been stricken from the docket, the plaintiffs are giving 30 days to file their complaint.

When the barrel is put together and is,