

## WETS DECIDE TO MAKE FIGHT AT POLLS IN 1926

Try to Elect Both Men and Women to Congress Who Are Pledged to Modification of Volstead Law

LAYING FOUNDATION  
Work in Congress Will be Headed by Republican Representative John Philip Hill of Maryland

By ROBERT T. SMALL  
(Copyright, 1925, by The Advance)  
Washington, Dec. 15.—The "wets" of the New Congress are "feeling their oats" to such an extent that they have decided to make a real open fight at the polls next November for the election of both men and women to Congress who are pledged to some sort of modification of the Volstead Act.

The foundations for this fight will be laid in the present session of Congress. The work will be headed, of course, by that stalwart among the anti-prohibitionists, Representative John Philip Hill, of Maryland, a Republican. Mr. Hill will be supported by both Democrats and Republicans in all his undertakings, giving a non-partisan character to the fight.

The "wets" are convinced that they sense at last a turning of the tide or at least a slackening in the onward sweep of prohibition. They believe that the more timid members of Congress who do not believe in the drastic provisions of the Volstead act, but who voted for it, are beginning to get back the courage of their convictions and may be counted upon to assert themselves at some time in the not too distant future.

Evidence of the failure of the Volstead act in so many respects are being accumulated that at last the timid Congressmen are getting a bit of solid ground on which they can put their feet when they switch over from the super-drys to at least the semi-damps.

The battle for modification has by no means been won as yet but the wets take it as a good sign that some of their dry brothers are beginning to lose heart over the enforcement situation as it exists today and are willing to listen to the arguments of the modificationists.

Representative Hill is in the midst of the work of organizing his "unofficial committee on modification of the Volstead act." He claims he will have more than 150 congressmen on his list before he is through. There were 150 in the last Congress. The prohibitionists have claimed the New House to be drier than the last. Mr. Hill says he will discredit this claim.

## Uses Whip on Her Hubby



Mrs. Nettie Taylor, 25, of Indianapolis, Ind., heard that her husband had been in company with another woman. So she took this blacksnake whip and flogged him through a downtown street. She hasn't seen him since, and now she wants him back.

## FRENCH CABINET TO MAKE A NEW EFFORT AGREE ON FINANCE

Paris, Dec. 15.—The cabinet council today decided that the government should make another effort to reach agreement with the chamber of deputies finance committee on M. Loucheur's fiscal measures. The finance minister will confer with M. Lyautey and M. Lecomte, president and secretary, respectively, of the committee this afternoon.

## KU KLUX WAIT FOR ALICE RHINELANDER

Fort Pierce, Florida, Dec. 15.—Unrobed men, said to be members of Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, today were standing guard at the local railroad station to see that Alice Beatrice Rhinelander, negro bride of Leonard Kip Rhinelander, does not stop at Fort Pierce.

## FIVE LOSE LIVES IN N. Y. TENEMENT FIRE

New York, Dec. 15.—Four women and a man lost their lives and five others were injured early today in a tenement fire.

## BOLSHEVIKI BUSY IN SOUTH AMERICA

New York, Dec. 15.—John Barrett, former United States minister to Argentina and other South American countries, attending the opening session of the Pan-American Commercial Congress today, said that the Russian Bolsheviks are broadcasting propaganda throughout South America against the United States.

## BATTLE TO DECIDE FATE OF TSO LIN

Shanghai, Dec. 15.—Reports from Japanese sources say that the fate of Marshall Tso Lin, Manchurian warlord, probably will be decided by the battle now raging in Pai Ki Pa sector about 40 miles west of Mukden.

## Wants All Sections On I. C. Commission

Washington, Dec. 15.—A bill under which ultimately all sections of the country would be equally represented on the Interstate Commerce Commission was introduced today by Senator Smith of South Carolina.

## Beard Lion In His Den, Motto of Aged Derelict

T. McKee Proves More Than a Match for Sheriff, Prosecuting Attorney and Chief of Police in Tilts in and Out of Courtroom Here

Bearding the lion in his den isn't often done in these parts. But that one T. McKee, with emphasis on the "T," isn't afraid of one lion or a flock of them was plainly apparent in recorder's court Tuesday morning. McKee is aged and bent. He has slept in the wind and rain without so much as a leaky umbrella to protect him from the elements. But his spirit is unbroken, and he faces peril unafraid.

McKee has spent several days in a makeshift camp on the Newland Highway in the edge of the swamp a scant half mile outside the city limits. His "camp" consists of a few tattered bed quilts, and is utterly roofless. He came here in a dilapidated wagon drawn by a pair of mules, and led a young draft horse by the bridle. The aged wanderer—he must be 70—was haled into court on charges of vagrancy and cruelty to animals. At the close of the session he was given 12 hours to depart from Pasquotank County.

Sheriff Carmine has had a solicitous eye upon the unbidden visitor for several days. He carried him food—and was abused roundly for his trouble. "He cursed me three times," Mr. Carmine said Tuesday, "and did a thorough job of it every time."

## REV. JOHN H. HALL DIES AT HOME HERE

Was Former Presiding Elder This District and Former Pastor of First M. E. Church

Rev. John H. Hall, who for four years was presiding elder of the Elizabeth City district of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and who prior to that time served the First Methodist Church as pastor during its first quadrennium under the first Carolina conference, died at his home here, corner of Walnut and First streets, Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. He had been in failing health for four years and, during the latter part of his illness, was an invalid. The final turn for the worse came Sunday and death followed quietly two days later.

## LINCOLN CANES ARE TREASURED

Presented to Indians in New Mexico in 1863 by the President

Albuquerque, N. M., Dec. 15.—In 1863 President Lincoln gave silver mounted canes to each of 13 governors of pueblos among the Pueblo and Zuni Indians in New Mexico, on the occasion of their visit to Washington. Today these canes represent the emblem of authority in the pueblos. They have been handed down from governor to governor.

## GRANGE IN HOSPITAL ON ACCOUNT OF ARM

Danville, Ill., Dec. 15.—Red Grange entered the hospital here today to undergo an X-ray examination and treatment for his bruised arm. He is under the care of Dr. E. B. Colley, father of one of his managers.

## REPORT FRONTIER DEFINITELY FIXED

Geneva, Dec. 15.—After hours of a secret session of the League of Nations Council today a report was circulated that it had been unanimously decided to fix the provisional Brussels line as the definite frontier of Mosul, thus awarding the greater portion of the disputed territory to British mandate, State of Iraq. As conditions were reported the decision directed economic treaties favorable to Turkey. The report has not been officially confirmed.

## Ran Still



Prof. Dabney Hurton, instructor in English at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, is under arrest on charges of possessing a still and owning liquor, and a sweeping investigation has been begun by order of Governor A. W. Donahay. Hurton is shown above, with the still that was found in his home, below.

## MANY ILLUSIONS IN THE MOVIES

Carefully Created by Trick Photographers and Versatile Engineers

Hollywood, Dec. 15.—The movie public has many illusions that are carefully created by trick photography and the versatility of engineers.

These secrets of the trade conceal millions of dollars annually in the budgets of producers. The directors point out, however, that they are not evolved to deceive the theater-goer, nor primarily with the idea of saving money, but often are necessary to make the impossible stage the actual scene demanded in the script.

In the photographic tricks, the most indispensable perhaps, is the "glass ceiling" illusion. This is a device of painted glass placed slightly above the camera lens.

On the sheet of glass, ceilings, domes or roofs are painted to correspond with the actual set. This glass work is necessary because of the lighting demanded by the camera. The roofs or upper parts of the set are not constructed. Instead, strong flood lights are placed there.

Weeks of ocean liners are enacted in a small tank in the studio. Howling tanks are provided by mechanical wind machines. The "ocean" is lashed to fury by paddles, and the toy liner, perhaps ten inches in length, is tossed about on the waves by wires in the hands of studio assistants.

If the story calls for an explosion to sink the boat, a dynamite cap is placed in the set, and at the proper time and the miniature ship sinks beneath the waves with exciting realism.

A recent example of miniature illusion was enacted in a picture of monstrous prehistoric beasts. On the screen they appeared to weigh tons, and moved with life-like ease. Before the camera they were models eighteen inches high, composed of rubber and paper-maché, and their movements manipulated by invisible wires.

When the movie spectator sees actors struggling perilously near the brink of a precipice or on the cornice of a tall building, he may be witnessing a scene "shot" in two different places. The fight may have taken place on the studio floor, and the cameraman may later have photographed the precipice or roof corner on the same strip of film.

Fogs are formed in the studio by a large atomizer, which feeds cold vapor on the scene through perforated pipes concealed about the set.

## Virginia Power Company Tenders New Offer for Council's Consideration

TELLS PROBLEMS OF EMPLOYMENT  
Would Build Transmission Line from Gilmerston Here, City to Pay 15 Per Cent Cost Annually

Commissioner Labor Finds Many Seeking Jobs Not Suited to Them

Raleigh, Dec. 15.—Speaking here today Frank D. Grist, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, outlined the work of his department, and discussed his plans and hopes for its future development.

Mr. Grist placed particular emphasis on the employment division of the department, and told the City Council:

"The idea that we want to work out in our employment division is to procure for you the most suitable person or persons for the position or positions that you desire to fill, thereby keeping a square peg out of a round hole and doing away with mistfits in our economic and commercial life."

The Commissioner prefaced his remarks by saying that in his travels over the state it has been a revelation to him that so few people in North Carolina know anything of the Department of Labor and Printing.

Mr. Grist explained that the department, "as it is now being administered, is divided into five divisions." The first is the labor division, the chief duties of which are to collect "information and statistics concerning labor and its relation to capital, the wages of labor, the earnings of laborers and their educational, moral, and financial welfare."

The second division is the employment division, the design of which is to "connect the jobless man or woman with the manless or womanless job."

The speaker humorously told of what he had learned of human nature, since taking office, and told of instances of men suited for manual labor wanting "soft collar" jobs, and particularly of negro boys and men wanting places as chauffeurs.

"I sincerely believe," he said, "that the employment division of the Department of Labor and Printing is as essential as any other division of any department of the state or federal government."

"It is as much a public function to place the idle people of our population into productive employment as it is the function of our government to provide ways and means of education. I will explain this statement by saying that when a man is placed in employment, he is taken off the streets and ceases to be a loafer, thereby removing him from temptations and crime and elevating him to self-reliance and self-support, rendering a distinct service to society and the state."

The Commissioner discussed the division for the deaf, headed, as required by law, by a mute, and the speaker paid a tribute to the "efficiency and loyalty" of those "who can neither hear nor speak."

The printing division is headed by an assistant commissioner, who is a practical printer. Under this division, the state's printing is procured under contract on a competitive basis, and the work of this division "is a means of saving the state several thousand dollars a year on its printing and paper bill."

The miscellaneous supply division does a similar work in regard to miscellaneous supplies for the state, "enabling the state to buy its supplies direct from the jobber."

The division of farm labor was inaugurated last spring, as a subsidiary of the employment division. Mr. Grist explained, whose duty is the procuring of farm labor for farmers when crops are in need of harvesting. The work of this sort was first rendered truck growers of eastern North Carolina at the harvesting of their crops last spring, and later a similar attempt was made to serve the cotton growers.

If, through the farm labor division, I am able to procure sufficient help to assist eastern North Carolina farmers in harvesting their crops so they can get them on the market in ample time, thereby commanding a good price for their products, Eastern North Carolina, within a very few years, instead of being a bankrupt, hell-weevil ridden section of our state, will become as prosperous as any other," the Commissioner predicted.

He also discussed the division of service to the World War veterans, created by the last General. Continued on Page 4

## ASK 20-YR. CONTRACT Committee Takes Proposal Under Advisement, Deferring Report Until After First of Year

An offer to build a high power transmission line from Gilmerston, near Portsmouth, to Elizabeth City, and to supply current to this city at 1 1/2 cents per kilowatt plus 15 per cent annually on the cost of the line, was made to the City Council in special session today by representatives of the Virginia Electric & Power Company.

The Council took the offer under consideration, but deferred action until after the first of the year.

This is the third proposal made by the Virginia company. The first offer was to buy out the municipally owned power plant here, together with all connections, under a plan whereby the purchasers would retail current to individual customers. The second was for Elizabeth City to build a transmission line from Gilmerston here and purchase current wholesale, the city to retail it to consumers. The third offer was made in response to a request from a committee appointed to investigate the matter at the last regular session of the Council.

Under this latest proposal, the city would be expected to sign a 20-year contract with the Virginia Electric & Power Company, with a tacit understanding that the company would ask no increase in rate during the period of the contract, other than an allowance of \$0.0023 per kilowatt for each 25-cent increase in the price of coal above \$5 per ton. This would be embodied in the contract.

The question at present before the Council and the Utilities Commission is whether it would be preferable for the city to build its own plant and take a chance on making a profit on the investment, or whether the risk attendant upon such an enterprise should be borne by the Virginia company.

Tentative estimates arrived at during the course of the meeting indicated, in effect, that whether the city built its plant or bought power outside, the rate to the consumer would be essentially the same, due to the expense involved in building a 42-mile transmission line to Gilmerston.

Officials of the power company present were R. J. Trockmorton, superintendent of light and power in charge of the Norfolk division, and J. Y. Bayless, of Richmond, director of purchases and supplies. Members of the committee investigating the matter for the city are Councilmen D. R. Kramer and E. J. Cohen, City Manager M. W. Ferrell, and S. H. Johnson, of the Utilities Commission.

Mr. Johnson brought up the question as to whether the city would be better off to go ahead and build its own plant with the expectation of adding to it from time to time as the demand for current increased. He laid stress on the fact that, under the offer of the Virginia company to build a line here upon which the city would pay 15 per cent annually, at the end of the 20-year period the line would have been paid for in full, but it would belong to the power company and the city would have nothing to show for its money.

City Engineer O'Brien raised the question as to whether the city would be just as well off as at present, through the fact that the 15 per cent charge on the line would represent only a normal carrying charge which the city would have to assume in the event it built its own plant. He explained that his company would have to raise the money to build the line, and of course would have to pay interest on it while accumulating a sinking fund to take care of the investment.

He estimated the cost of a 66,000-volt steel power transmission line from Gilmerston here at \$200,000 to \$300,000, depending upon the type of construction. City Engineer O'Brien, who was present at the conference, expressed the opinion that a suitable line would cost in the neighborhood of \$420,000.

On the other hand, to erect a 2,000-kilowatt plant here would cost about \$300,000. Mr. O'Brien estimated, explaining that this was the type of plant which had been contemplated.

The chief barrier to the purchase of power from the Virginia company, it appeared, probably would prove the high cost of connecting with the company's present lines. To offset this, the representatives of the company pointed out that whenever there should happen to be a demand

Continued on Page 4