

SALES TAX ON GASOLINE WILL YIELD MILLIONS

Forty-four States Where Such Taxes Are Law and Effect Watched With Interest by Oil Men

BIG AUTO YEAR

Orders Coming in, Factories Increasing Production, and Oil Wells Are Trying to Keep Up

By J. C. BOYLE

New York, Jan. 29.—The sales tax on gasoline will yield approximately \$200,000,000 in 1926. That is the conclusion of statisticians of the Petroleum Industry Council...

At present there are 41 states where such taxes are law. While the taxes on gasoline are state taxes, their volume had an appreciable effect on the interest with which oil men watched congressional progress on the tax bill today.

It is true that the gas taxes are paid by the consumer but the men associated with the petroleum industry fear the tax may have a distinct effect on consumption and the main thing now the matter with the oil business is the excess of gasoline stocks and production. Gasoline production has increased over 2 per cent since the war, according to officials of the American Petroleum Institute.

The output of crude oil is gradually being checked with average daily production daily production well under the 2,000,000 barrel mark. No big new pools are being discovered and oil men do not look for much discovery in the immediate future, although a big gusher has just been brought in in deep formation almost at Wichita's back door.

Present indications in the automobile industry. Orders received from dealers by manufacturers and those in prospect, indicate that automobile manufacturers will do the biggest first quarter business in their history. All the big producers except Ford are increasing production. Truck and bus manufacturers are expected to do even better than the makers of passenger cars.

The export of petroleum products, especially gasoline is expected to grow rapidly this year and thereafter. Ford has just shipped 10,000 tractors to Russia. Recent arrivals from China say that inhabitants of that country are becoming motor mad and that the chief ambition of any rising Chinese is to own a car.

While no flash fields have been uncovered recently, oil is being produced now from wells which hitherto had been regarded as impossible of recovery. In California, crude is being pumped from nearly a mile below the surface, an achievement developed within the last two years. Deeper drilling and pumping has opened large areas of oil bearing strata, formerly out of reach. Standardization of oil field equipment is expected to save hundreds of millions of dollars for the industry and constant improvements are being made in refining methods.

The importation of oil from Venezuela is growing steadily and at least one refinery in the East is being enlarged to handle Venezuelan output. This is counterbalanced to some extent however, by the drop in Mexican production, which some authorities say has fallen from 200,000,000 barrels annually to 115,000,000.

Oil companies are adopting uniform accounting methods and the benefit of income account and balance sheets will be placed at the disposal of the investing public. Oil men say this spells the doom of the fake oil companies as it will give the investor an exact idea of the value of the securities he is buying.

EPISCOPAL CONVENTION TO MEET IN ELIZABETH CITY
Washington, Jan. 29.—With the passage of legislation to enlarge the usefulness of the church during the coming year, election of officers and the receiving of many reports, the 43rd annual convention of the Episcopal Church in the diocese of East Carolina, held in St. John's Church here, came to a close Wednesday. The invitation from Christ Church, Elizabeth City to hold the convention there in 1927 was accepted.

WILL OCCUPY PULPIT OF CANN MEMORIAL CHURCH
Rev. A. J. Crane, Superintendent of the Missions of the Albemarle Synod, Tarboro, will occupy the pulpit Sunday morning and evening of Cann Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Crawled to Life Over 18 Bodies



Cecil McKinney was entombed with 18 others when an explosion wrecked the shaft of the DeKann-McConnell mine in Wilburton, Oklahoma. Rescue workers who came down 24 hours later found him and pronounced him dead. But he revived, crawled over the lifeless body of his father and 17 other dead men and made his way to the surface. He is shown recovering at home, surrounded by his wife and children. He was the only white man to escape.

Skeleton Unearthed Goes to Tacna By Workmen Near County Jail



A skeleton long submerged in the swamp ooze under the west end of the bridge on Pool street, just back of the county jail, was unearthed Friday by workmen engaged in making excavations for a sewer line which will replace the old drainage canal which the bridge crossed. The identity of the skeleton is a mystery. It is that of a negro, in the opinion of Dr. T. S. McMullan, who viewed the skull shortly after it was unearthed.

John Askew, colored laborer, discovered the bones as he was digging deep into the mud at the point where the bridge head formerly stood. A few smaller bones were unearthed at first. Then one by one, the entire skeleton was uncovered and pitched forth from its slimy resting place.

This is the second skeleton dug up by workmen engaged in sewer excavations here in recent weeks. The first was found on Lawrence street, near the site of a "pest house" of half a century ago. That one is believed to have been the last mortal remains of a smallpox victim, buried unceremoniously near the spot where he died. The bones were fast mouldering into dust.

The latest skeleton is in excellent condition, indicating to those who viewed it that it had not lain there for many years. The position under the bridge head is taken by some to indicate that the body was hidden there. Whether the bones are those of a man or woman has not been determined yet, according to W. L. Jones, in charge of the sewer work at that point.

Luther Culpepper, of the Culpepper Hardware Company, happened along soon after the bones were found, and carried the skull to his store. From there, it was taken by a newspaper man to the drug store of Overman & Stevenson, where Dr. McMullan viewed it. He stated there was no way to tell definitely from a casual examination whether it was that of a white man or a negro, but pointed to the low forehead and the thickness of the skull as indicating that it was a negro's. Coming on the heels of a discovery of the skeleton of a man in a swamp near Burnt Mill, Camden County, the finding of this latest assemblage of bones evoked much comment here.

Fishing Tugs Facing Additional Hazards

Muskegon, Mich., Jan. 29.—Their craft still wedged in a huge ice floe five of the eight members of the crews of the fishing tugs Indian and Helen M. faced additional hazards today somewhere in Lake Michigan between here and Grand Haven as their food and fuel supplies continued to dwindle. Hope for relief rested on two airplane expeditions that left morning. The planes will attempt Mount Clemens at 9 o'clock this to drop food down to them.

RESIGNATION OF COL. MITCHELL BEEN ACCEPTED

Washington, Jan. 29.—The resignation of Colonel William Mitchell from the Army has been accepted. Nothing beyond this brief announcement was made public today. It was learned, however, that the acceptance was unconditional and did not hinge on any formal notification that it was "good for the service."

Lieut. MacReady Is Off For New High Record
Dayton, Jan. 29.—Lieutenant John A. MacReady in an especially built and equipped airplane took off from McCook field at 10:10 central standard time today in an attempt to establish a new world's altitude record.

SAUNDERS OUT AS CANDIDATE FOR ASSEMBLY

Editor of Independent Will Enter Democratic Primary Asking Nomination as Representative

JUST WANTS TO SIT IN

Nobody Has Asked or Urged Him Run and Has No Legislative Program, But Promises Square Deal

W. O. Saunders, editor of the Independent, widely known weekly publication here, announces himself a candidate for the General Assembly in its next session, subject to the action of the Democratic primary, in today's issue of his newspaper. In his published announcement Mr. Saunders says: "I shall be a candidate for the General Assembly because I want to sit in on the next session of that legislative body. No one has asked me to run and I am not making a great sacrifice in the interest of the people.

"I have no legislative program to offer; there is no proposed local legislation in which I have the slightest personal interest. As a matter of fact I think we have too many laws already and the country would be safer, the life of the people happier and more prosperous if a lot of the laws we have were repealed.

"Before announcing my candidacy I went personally to my friend and fellow citizen Shelton G. Scott who has been urged to be a candidate for the office. I told Mr. Scott that if he would run I would not be a candidate but would pledge him my support. Mr. Scott assured me that he did not want the office and could not sacrifice the time necessary to wage a campaign.

"I have no intention of campaigning extensively for myself. I shall certainly refrain from making a hand-shaking campaign. I shall buy no cigars, kiss no babies and make no specious promises to anybody.

I represented Pasquotank County in the General Assembly of 1919. My record for that session is an open book to any voter in the County who cares to read. There was no legislation effecting my town and my county at that session of the General Assembly that was not referred back to the people at home before I moved to enact a law. For the first time in the history of this County the voters of this County and this district knew first hand from week to week through the columns of this newspaper exactly what their local representative and Senators were doing. My stand on every question was open and above board and no sneak legislation effecting my constituents was enacted. Sneak legislation, by which this City and County have been victimized time after time, was utterly impossible under the white light of the full publicity which I gave to all legislative matters effecting the interests of my constituents.

"There were people in this County who called me a wild man and prophesied that I would raise the devil generally if I went to Raleigh. I did nothing, of the sort.

"I purpose and here and now promise to pursue the same course in the General Assembly of 1925 if my fellow citizens elect me to represent them. They shall know what is going on at Raleigh and no legislation will be enacted that does not meet with the approval of our citizens.

"Before announcing my candidacy I approached a number of the best and most unselfish citizens of Elizabeth City, men of prominence, men of influence, men whose word goes far with their neighbors. I did not ask them for their support. I asked them only what would be their attitude toward my candidacy? Man after man, with but one exception, pledged me his support.

"And so I am a candidate for that thankless office; a candidate because I want to sit in at the next session of the North Carolina General Assembly. I ask the vote and support of my fellow citizens confidently and without apology, because I know that I can and will render them a very real service in giving them the inside news of their Legislature from week to week, if in no other way."

LIVELY DISCUSSIONS ALUMNI CONFERENCE

Chapel Hill, Jan. 29.—The second day of the University alumni conference in session here opened early this morning with lively discussions of alumni projects. Group meetings were held at various spots on the campus followed by a general assembly.

HINTONS NOT BEHIND MOVE TO BUILD HOTEL

An impression current in this city for a week or more that W. E. and E. V. Hinton, former owners of the Hinton Block, were interested in the proposal to erect a hotel here, to the extent of undertaking to form a company for the purpose, and to put up a major part of the money themselves, is without foundation, they declare.

The Hinton brothers say they have had no thought of organizing a company to build a hotel, and that they have made no effort to put up any money under a proviso whereby a small group would be formed to finance the undertaking.

CHANGE COMES OVER CAPITAL IN ONE NIGHT

Atmosphere Clears With Adoption of Protocol Whereby United States Enters World Court

COOLIDGE HAD WAY

And Troublesome Controversy Disposed of With Relatively Little Party Dissension and Bitterness

By DAVID LAWRENCE
Washington, Jan. 29.—There is no escaping the complete change which has come over night in the atmosphere of Washington after the adoption of the protocol whereby the United States is to enter the World Court.

It is not so much that President Coolidge has had his way about an important matter of foreign policy but that a troublesome, time-consuming controversy has been disposed of and relatively little damage done in the way of party dissension.

Usually a bitter fight which takes three years leaves traces of ill-feelings. The World Court debate has been managed with good temper on both sides. The champions of the measure have had to make concessions right along, and this possibly has allayed the opposition; but on the whole there has been no such sharp cleavages established as was the case in the Versailles Treaty fight. The Democrats this time joined with the Republicans. In fact, were it not for Senator Swanson's management, the World Court protocol would not now be adopted. President Coolidge co-operated with the Virginia Senator conferring with him frequently at the White House. Mr. Coolidge also has made it a point to discuss questions of this kind with leading Democrats like Colonel E. M. House and Bernard M. Baruch both of whom have been his guests at the Executive Mansion.

There has been no reaching out for personal or party gain so far as politics is concerned. Indeed, if the United States could have been in the same non-partisan mood in 1919 that it is today there would have been no question about the ratification of the Versailles Treaty with the Lodge reservations or their equivalent.

It is particularly fortunate that the World Court fight ended peacefully because with the new tax bill about to be considered, the Senate needs every bit of cohesion between the parties in order to hasten passage of the measure. Members of the Senate know, however, that the country is impatient for the passage of the bill because a certain amount of time must be left to iron out differences between the House and Senate when the measure goes to conference. It is estimated that at least a week will be needed in conference.

This means that the Senate really has not more than three weeks in which to consider the tax bill, assuming that it is determined a certain amount of time must be left to iron out differences between the House and Senate when the measure goes to conference. It is estimated that at least a week will be needed in conference.

"We came to this conclusion," said Senator Means, Republican, of Colorado, head of the subcommittee, "that he disliked the original side of the court and was in the habit of listening to the district attorney who is the worst you could possibly get and should be removed."

S. E. Murray is the district attorney referred to. On the stand before the subcommittee he assumed all responsibility for methods employed in disposing of a number of prohibition and other cases.

WAY PROVIDE FOR CHARITY PATIENTS

The Duke Foundation is ready and willing to match a dollar a day per bed, the move of any county in the Albemarle district to provide a charity bed for patients from that county in any accredited hospital. Dr. W. S. Rankin, former head of the State health department and now director of the foundation, assured physicians in attendance upon a meeting of the First District Medical Society in Hertford Thursday night. The district includes all the North Carolina counties north of Albemarle Sound.

For every 20,000 population unit, 600 persons are sick in bed every day in the year, Dr. Rankin declared, adding that 60 of those were in need of hospital treatment. Of that 60, he said, one-third are unable to meet the cost of such treatment.

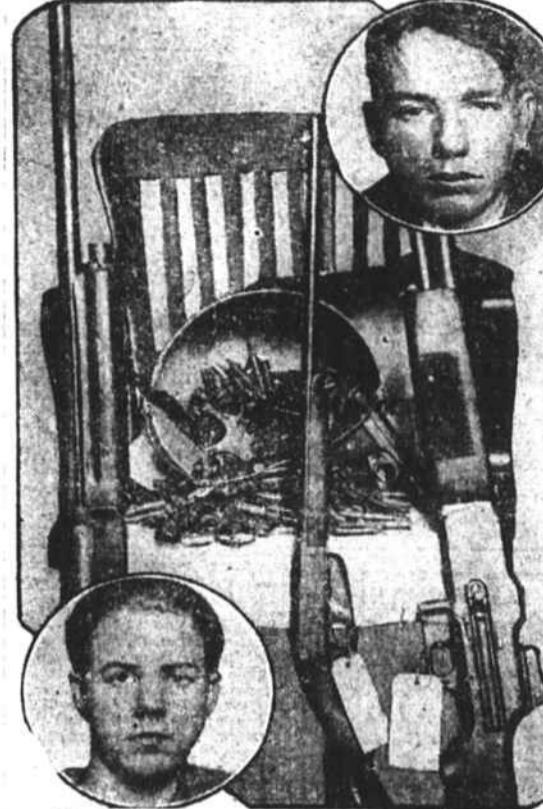
TWO MEN HANGED ON SAME GALLOWS

Columbus, Ga., Jan. 29.—Wilhelm Jones and Gervis Bloodworth, condemned for the murder two years ago of Howard Underwood, were hanged here today. They were hanged from the same gallows at 11:12 this morning.

FIVE KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION

New York, Jan. 29.—Cotton futures opened today at the following levels: March 20.12, May 19.65, July 18.93, October 18.21, December 17.94.

Youths Jailed With Arsenal



When Horace Chesney, 16 (lower inset), and Howell T. Hoskins, 17 (upper inset), came down the turnpike, their automobile packed with sundry artillery, the police of Kansas City took them to jail. To add to the police suspicions, Chesney had a fresh bullet wound in his arm, which Hoskins said was inflicted accidentally. In the car were a Browning machine gun with Maxim silencer, an automatic rifle, an automatic shotgun, three revolvers, 500 rounds of machine gun ammunition, a four-tube radio set, two flashlights and three heavy laprobes. Hoskins was a University of Tennessee student and Chesney a waiter.

Favorable Report On Judge Anderson

District Attorney Murray Takes Blame For Methods in Dry Cases

Washington, Jan. 29.—Unanimous favorable report on the nomination of Federal Judge Harry B. Anderson of the western district of Tennessee was ordered today by the judiciary committee. The action was taken after the subcommittee which investigated charges against the nominee had reported that nothing was found reflecting on Judge Anderson's moral integrity and standing in the community.

"We came to this conclusion," said Senator Means, Republican, of Colorado, head of the subcommittee, "that he disliked the original side of the court and was in the habit of listening to the district attorney who is the worst you could possibly get and should be removed."

S. E. Murray is the district attorney referred to. On the stand before the subcommittee he assumed all responsibility for methods employed in disposing of a number of prohibition and other cases.

IDENTITY DEAD MAN UNCERTAIN

No conclusion was reached as to the identity of the body found on the Camden side of the Pasquotank River swamp near Burnt Mill and about seven miles up the river from Camden courthouse by the coroner's jury which held an inquest over the remains Friday, according to telephone reports received here today.

That the skeleton was that of a white man five feet seven inches tall well into or past middle life is declared to have been indicated by the shape and thickness of the skull, by the measurement of the bones, and by the condition of the teeth and jaw, but further than that the jury's verdict did not go.

Other things disclosed by Thursday's investigation afforded no further clue to the dead man's identity, it is declared. It was discovered that the small bone of one leg had been broken just above the ankle, but otherwise there was no evidence of broken bones in the body. Buttons and ragged remnants of the leather lining of an army coat lay beside the skeleton, when it was found, and in the muck in which the dead man's trousers had rotted away was found a bill folder containing a dollar bill, two nickels and an old fashioned two-cent piece. There was also what had been a key, but rusted when found beyond all hope of identification. Two back teeth on the right and one on the left side of the upper jaw were missing, while the tooth next to the one missing on the right upper jaw was platinum filled.

The body had lain so long in the swamp that the bones were quite bare of all flesh, reports agree, and only the shoes, a rubber belt, the buttons of the army coat and some patches of the coat's lining had withstood complete decay.

The remains were buried at an old burying ground near the home of David Hall on the South Mills-Camden road about six miles from the courthouse.

COUNCIL IS FINAL AUTHORITY UPON DEAL FOR POWER

Members of Utilities Commission Led Astray by Loose Construction of Elizabeth City Charter

MAY PROPOSE, BUT—

When It Comes to Deciding Whether We Build Plant or Buy Current City Fathers Have Say So

Just where does the City Council's authority end, and that of the Utilities Commission begin? This is the question prompted by an article appearing in this week's edition of the Independent, published here by W. O. Saunders, widely known as a writer for Collier's, the American, and other nationally read magazines.

The article, written by Mr. Saunders upon the basis of information which had come to him from what he declares he had reason to regard as a reliable source, discloses that, by reason of loose construction of the city charter, the members of the Utilities Commission themselves are—or have been of the opinion that they constituted the final authority as to whether Elizabeth City shall build its own electric plant, or buy power from outside hydro-electric interests.

Under the heading: "The Cart Attempts to Run away with the Horse," Mr. Saunders points the City Council in the light of having gotten very busy over the power question when actually the authority to decide the issue was vested with the Utilities Commission, and with having carried on various negotiations with outside interests without having invited the Utilities Commission to take part in such negotiations.

This promptly brought a "rise" from Mayor McCabe. The mayor wrote the editor of The Daily Advance as follows: Mr. Herbert Peole, Editor, The Daily Advance, Elizabeth City, N. C. My Dear Mr. Peole:

I am writing you in regards an article published in today's Independent, viz: "The Cart Tries to Run Away With Horse and It Can't Be Done."

I am not answering this article for the purpose of starting any controversy, (Ia be it from me) but in order to state the matter as it really is and not as some one has grossly misinformed Mr. Saunders. The facts follow:

I have, for some little time, noticed the rapid industrial growth of the Piedmont Section of this State and one of the conclusions arrived at was that this growth was due to their cheap, unlimited electric power.

With this thought in my mind I called the officials of the Virginia Electric & Power Company and asked them to come down and look over the field with a view to offering us a proposition. They complied with my request at once. They met with Mr. Ferebee, Mr. Hughes and myself and merely asked a few questions relative to their submitting us a contract.

A few days later I was called from Norfolk and asked if they could come down. I told them that they could. The Utilities Board were advised of the meeting and two of them were present at our regular meeting of December 1, 1925. One of their board refused to be present at this meeting. Mr. Throckmorton came down and made an effort to answer questions asked him by members of both boards. A motion was made that I appoint a committee to confer with the officials and report back; the motion was duly seconded and carried. I appointed the City Manager, Aldermen D. R. Kramer, E. J. Cohoon, Mr. S. H. Johnson of the Utilities Commission, and myself as an ex-officio member. Since that time Mr. Johnson has been present at every conference with the power people and furthermore a copy of the contract submitted was mailed to the Commission, so you might gather from the above facts that the statement in Mr. Saunders' Independent that the Public Utilities Board has been ignored in all the conferences between the Mayor, Aldermen and Virginia Power & Electric Company, is absolutely groundless, due, I presume, from some one grossly misinforming him.

Whether we have the power to buy or reject this "super-power" is a question that can only be answered by the Charter of Elizabeth City and I have failed to find anything in the charter prohibiting same.

I thank you to give this a prominent place in your paper as possible in order that the people may know.

Sincerely, A. G. McCABE, Mayor.

Mr. Saunders declares that he was misinformed as to the powers and prerogatives of the Utilities Commission, and as to any participation its members have had in the recent negotiations with the Virginia Electric & Power Company.