

EX-SECRETARY WEEKS PASSES IN EARLY MORN

Had Been Ill For Some Time; Never Recovered From Long March to Unknown Soldier's Grave

WANTED ARMY HUMAN

Had Long Fight With Congress, and Served as Secretary of War at Particularly Crucial Time

Lancaster, N. H., July 12.—John Weeks, Secretary of War under Presidents Harding and Coolidge, died here at his summer home, Mount Prospect, at 3 o'clock Sunday morning.

Death came from angina pectoris and followed a long fight for health. Mr. Weeks died without recovering consciousness from the coma into which he lapsed early Sunday morning.

Mrs. Weeks, his son, Sinclair, and Mrs. John Washington Davidge, his daughter, were at his bedside when the end came.

When Mr. Weeks lapsed into a state of coma Doctor R. E. Wilder of Whitefield, personal physician to Mr. Weeks, advised members of the family that death was near and expectation was slight that the former Secretary could throw off its spell.

Announcement of his death came to The Associated Press by Mr. Weeks' son shortly before 6 o'clock.

It was generally assumed in the event the Republican party won the National election of 1921 that John W. Weeks would be a member of President Harding's cabinet. His selection for Secretary of the Navy or Secretary of the Treasury was regarded as certain. His success as a financier was recognized. His graduation at Annapolis and experience in naval affairs had been recorded as fitting him for the Navy secretaryship.

A big surprise came, however, when President-elect Harding announced he would appoint Mr. Weeks as Secretary of War.

From the time he was born on the little New Hampshire farm near Lancaster, April 11, 1869, he kept in each stage of life an ever present human viewpoint.

Until he was 17 he was doing chores on the farm, and taking a friendly interest in the horses and other living things about the barn yard. His graduation at the cross roads school and local high school placed him soon afterwards in the school master's chair, also at a country cross roads in his native state. He continued studying and learned one thing well—that a little knowledge was not enough.

The then young school master succeeded at the age of 18 in getting an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, where he was graduated four years later a midshipman. But two more years sufficed to kill what ambition then remained in the mind of Midshipman Weeks for a permanent post in the Navy. He and a number of his classmates resigned. The reason was two-fold. He failed personally to entwine over the service as a life's work and Congress failed to appropriate funds for new ships at a time when there was a lack of vessels and a consequent surplus of officers.

Incidents followed rapidly in the life of Mr. Weeks after his resignation from the Navy. Though he continued interest in that arm of the Nation's defense, serving as a volunteer during the Spanish-American war, and later accepting a reserve commission as Rear-Admiral, he turned away searching for new fields and a livelihood.

In 1888, Mr. Weeks married Miss Martha Sinclair and journeyed south, as a surveyor and land commissioner for the Florida Southern Railroad. Three years later, he returned to New England, joining partnership in what grew to be the thriving firm of Horablow & Weeks, bankers, of Boston, Mass. One of the biggest financial establishments in that part of the country thus was said to owe its success in a large measure to the genius of this then young man not long away from the farm.

He went to Congress in 1895, and later became Senator Weeks, succeeding Winthrop Murray Crane, of Massachusetts.

He served in the Senate until 1919, adding steadily in the meantime to his National prominence. The Republican National convention at Chicago, in 1916, saw in him one of the leading candidates for the Presidential nomination. Twenty-five states cast 165 votes for him. Only Charles Evans Hughes, the nominee of that convention, polled more votes than he.

Mr. Weeks was one of the first selections made by President Harding when he was choosing his cabinet. His was the difficult and complex task of readjusting the military establishment, disposing of billions of dollars' worth of war equipment, adjusting contractors' claims, and bringing to a close thousands of activities of a similar nature which his predecessor

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Veteran Knights of Violin To Foregather In Sunbury For Fiddler's Convention

Experts From Miles Around to Take Part in Contest in Gates County Wednesday Night, in Which Prizes Will be Awarded the Winners

Veteran knights of the violin from miles around will gather in Sunbury, in Gates County, Wednesday night to enter the lists in the first fiddlers' convention held in this section in many years. The convention has been arranged by the Sunbury Woman's Club, and will be held in the high school auditorium at 8 o'clock. Fiddlers from all the Northeastern Carolina counties and from nearby Virginia communities are expected to attend.

A first prize of \$10 will be awarded in the contest, and lesser awards of \$5 and \$2.50 will be made. The fiddlers attending will be given a big supper, and the cost of the trip to and from Sunbury will be refunded to them. The Sunbury Woman's Club is preparing for a large crowd of visitors also.

Among Pasquotank County fiddlers who are expected to take part in the contest are the Watson brothers, Ambrose, Joe and Durant, all of whom are counted experts with the bow. In the last fiddlers' convention held here, about ten years ago, Ambrose Watson and his father, the late W. P. Watson, a lieutenant in the Confederate army, took first prize for the best duet. The late T. P. Hall, of Coinjock, Currituck County, won the prize in the singles.

Dr. S. W. Gregory, well known local dentist, also is expected to be a contestant at the Sunbury event. Dr. Gregory was born and reared in Camden County, whence come many of the best fiddlers in this part of the country, and his friends declare that, even though he may be a little out of practice, he will give a good accounting of himself.

Some of the local fiddlers are practicing nightly in anticipation of the big event. Others scorn practice, saying with a knowing look that they need only a few minutes of "preparation" before the contests begin, in order to lumber up their trusty right arms and to wring sweet mellifluous from their fiddles.

"He can beat me on his tune," declared Ambrose Watson today, in discussing one of the other probable entrants whom he regarded as his most skillful adversary. "But I can beat him on mine." Mr. Watson is a timber broker, carrying on operations throughout this part of the State, and he is undertaking now to arrange his business affairs so as to keep them from interfering with his planned trip to Sunbury Wednesday night.

MANY NOTABLES ARE COMING FOR ISLAND FESTIVAL

Committees Busily at Work on Preparations for Many Thousands of Visitors Expected August 18

COAST GUARD HELPING

Two Cutters to Carry Special Honor Guests; Keeper of Nags Head Station to Assist at Ford

Governor McLean, former Governor Cameron Morrison, two United States Senators, ten members of the House of Representatives, four Episcopal bishop and Sir Esmé Howard, British ambassador to the United States, are expected to be among the honor guests of Roanoke Island at the celebration of Virginia Dare Day at Old Fort Raleigh on August 18.

The celebration is in observance of the birthday anniversary of the first English child born in the territorial confines of what is now the United States. The week in which August 18 falls will be celebrated also by Roanoke Island and Dare County folk as Home Coming Week. Fifteen hundred former residents of the county have been invited to return during the week, renew old acquaintanceships, exchange reminiscences, and observe the changes the years have wrought in their home county. They have been tendered written invitations by the Dare County Home Coming Committee, of which Mrs. Reanne G. Williamson, of Manteo, is chairman.

The British ambassador is to be the chief speaker on Virginia Dare Day. He will go to Roanoke Island directly from Washington aboard the Coast Guard cutter Apache, accompanied by his official party, and the delegation will bring a letter from President Coolidge to be read at the celebration. Senators Simmons and Overman, and Representatives Warren, Kerr, Abernethy, Lyon, Bulwinkle and Weaver, of the North Carolina delegation in Congress, together with several Virginia Congressmen, are expected to attend also.

The celebration will be held under the auspices of the Roanoke Colony Memorial Association, of which the Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Chesire, of Raleigh, is president, and many Episcopal dignitaries are expected to attend. The visiting official will be taken to Roanoke Island aboard the Coast Guard cutter Pamlico, from this city, leaving here early in the morning on the eighteenth.

Meanwhile, intensive preparations are being made here and in Dare County in anticipation of the festivities. Funds have been collected, with Elizabeth City merchants contributing freely, and plans are going ahead to take care of the large crowd expected. The official guests will be entertained in homes on the island, and the public will have opportunity to pay sundries at other canteens at long tables to be placed in the shade of the pleasant grove which surrounds the site of Old Fort Raleigh.

Transportation of the thousands of visitors has become the principal problem of those arranging for the celebration. The Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce is co-operating vigorously in this phase of the arrangements, and already assurance has been given that several large steamers will make excursion trips from here to the island that day. Parking space will be provided for the hundreds of motorists who will drive here, and will finish the journey by boat.

It is announced also that several boats will leave Point Harbor, at the lower tip of Currituck County, to take other hundreds to the island. Point Harbor is only a matter of some 15 miles from Old Fort Raleigh, and is the terminus of the State highway running through Currituck. For those who prefer a shorter boat trip than the 50-mile run to the island from this city, this will have strong appeal, members of the committee in charge believe.

To assist in taking the excursionists ashore at the Fort, Captain Walter Etheridge, keeper of the Coast Guard station at Nags Head, has been detailed with a corps of Coast Guardsmen and a number of surf boats. Ensign J. A. Price, superintendent of the Seventh District of the Coast Guard, announced here today.

Dare County and Roanoke Island are preparing to entertain at least 5,000 people on the day of the celebration. Of these, several thousand are expected from nearby Tidewater Virginia communities, attracted by the multitude of historic and romantic associations which cluster about the Lost Colony, and by the scenic features of the trip. For instance, just across Roanoke Sound from Old Fort Raleigh rises Kill Devil Hill, where the Wright brothers conducted the first successful experiments in heavier-than-air flying some 20 years ago.

So the 'Possum Family Breathes More Easily



Lulu 'Possum and her babies are breathing more easily again. They had been destined to provide the main course of a colored family's feast. But a white man came along, bought 'em and presented them to the Memphis (Tenn.) zoo. And while visitors may not pay much attention to them ordinarily, they are the center of attraction every Tuesday. Why? Tuesday is colored peoples' day at the zoo.

Snakes at State Museum Don Their Summer Togs

Banded Rattler Sheds Old Suit of Scales on Warm Day and Incidentally Adds Another Rattle; Green Snake Lays Eggs; Sail Fish Roasts a Fin

Raleigh, July 12. With the coming of warm weather, summer clothing became stylish among the "boarders" at the reptile cage in the State Museum today.

The Banded Rattler Snake, which the little city of snakes boasts as ruler presented the manager of the staff with an entire new outfit which he adorned. The old suit of scales became out of date and worn in spots, according to H. T. Davis, of the museum staff, so he immediately discarded the outfit and came forth in his summer clothing. The addition of another rattle on the posterior section of his elongated body was also noticed with the adornment of new finish. The process was somewhat annoying to the snake as he was completely without sight for several days while attempting to pull the old clothing over his head.

The small green snake made an attempt to increase the number of inhabitants in the village by presenting the staff with five small white eggs. The eggs in appearance resembled a calumet tiddler of the kind that was in vogue several years ago. The eggs are being preserved and not allowed to hatch. The eggs would produce small green snakes were they placed in warm sands and kept at a constant temperature, according to Mr. Davis.

From a scientific standpoint the largest addition to the museum in some time was made with the acquisition of a sail fish which was sent to the capital by Professor H. T. McLean, teacher of biology in the Morehead City High School. The fish, captured near Morehead City, is the second one of its species which has been found within the limits of the State, according to the records of the museum.

The fish is adorned with a fin which can be raised from the water approximately six feet so that he may travel briskly through the water when the wind is strong without the use of a single muscle. When not in use the fin is lowered.

FLOATING ROAD STAGES FIREWORKS ON HOT DAY

Harry Ferber of Camden County was motoring to Elizabeth City Saturday afternoon when bang something that sounded like a cannon cracker went off beneath his car.

Mr. Ferber gathered himself together and looked for a deflated tire, but he found the floating road that had cracked from the heat of the July day, just as he drove across the particular spot where the concrete had decided to stage a revolution.

Other motorists coming along afterwards noticed the lump in the road, and drove cautiously over it to prevent being bounced into the swamp.

Two Badly Injured In Collision Near Berea Church

Hurled headlong through the windshield of the car in which he was riding, Paul Scott, of this city, sustained a number of severe cuts and bruises Saturday night at about 11 o'clock in a collision with another automobile on the Newland Highway, near Berea Church. A young woman occupant of the other car, also was cut up badly.

The accident is ascribed to a truck having been left parked on the side of the highway, close to the brick paving, with no light on it. Mr. Scott, accompanied by J. B. Britt, in charge of the potato inspectors stationed here, was returning from Berkley, the two having gone there earlier in the day to inspect two cars of potatoes for the firm of Brock & Scott, with which Mr. Scott is connected. Mr. Britt was driving. They were in a Ford touring car.

According to Mr. Scott, they observed the truck and also an automobile which was approaching from the opposite direction and turned out on the highway sufficiently to give the approaching car about a dozen feet of clearance in which to pass. The driver of the latter, however, apparently became confused and cut too far over, with the result that the Ford crashed into the side of it. Both cars were damaged badly.

The drivers of the two cars practically escaped injury, although Mr. Britt was flung against the steering wheel of the Ford so hard that a pen and pencil in his coat pocket were cut in two. He sustained only a few bruises.

When he was pitched through the windshield, Mr. Scott sustained many cuts on the face, including a gash on the nose which required seven stitches to close. His hip also was badly cut, and a sliver of glass went through the flesh of his right knee, to the bone.

The driver of the second automobile, a Moon touring car, who is F. A. Hale, of Norfolk, chief machinist's mate on the U. S. S. Salina.

The injured were brought to this city and were given first aid treatment for their hurts. Those who had been in the Moon car left for Norfolk on a jitney, after the man had arranged to have the damaged automobile brought here. Both cars were brought in by V. B. Davis, manager of the Square Deal Garage, yesterday morning at about 2:30 o'clock.

Despite his injuries, Mr. Scott was at work at usual this morning. He is a son of S. W. Scott, one of the best known farmers of the Weeksville section, and a member of the firm of Brock & Scott, commission merchants here.

The car in which Mr. Scott and Mr. Britt were riding belongs to S. G. Scott, of this city.

A R E HOSTILE TO DEBT AGREEMENT

Conclusion of French Financial Debates Sounds the Death Knell

By PAUL SCOTT MOWBRER (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

Paris, July 12.—Conclusion early Saturday of the great French financial debates apparently sounded the death knell of the Washington debt agreement at least in its present form. All parties expressed themselves as hostile to the agreement.

The order of the day on which the government finally won a majority by 269 to 247 with about 40 abstentions carefully omits all mention of the debt agreement. Before winning even this feeble majority, Finance Minister Caillaux was obliged to tell the Chamber of Deputies he intends to "continue negotiations."

Under the pressure of public opinion the government has been obliged to authorize the war veterans' demonstration scheduled for Sunday against the debt agreement. A few days ago the demonstration had been formally forbidden.

Frenchmen of all shades of opinion are afraid of foreign financial aid. They seem to believe the British and American bankers are interested only in reaping fortunes from France's disaster. Their idea of the foreign financial "plot" is that the foreign bankers first would give credits and then, after some time, would refuse to renew the credits, that the government would admit it was unable to reimburse the bankers and that the latter then would get possession of the mines, railways and industrial shares at a rate far below their real value.

The government's final majority was based upon the left and center. The right and the socialists opposed it. The opposition in both wings believes that the government plan means new inflation with assurance of real stabilization.

The opposition does not want foreign credits and desires to force improvement in the value of the franc before stabilization. If adjustment were less near, the fall of the government might be confidently expected in the near future. But with the adjournment close at hand the chances are that the government will show a conciliatory spirit and will retain a small majority until parliament adjourns for the summer, thus remaining in power until next September.

DAMP WEEK-END HERE INDICATED

Spirituous Beverages Figure in Many Cases in Recorder's Court

Evidence of a decidedly "damp" week-end was forthcoming in generous measure in recorder's court Monday morning. Heading the list of cases in which moonshine beverages played a conspicuous part was an action against J. P. Speaks, employed by R. G. Lassiter & Company, contractors, in which the defendant was charged with operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor, and with being drunk and disorderly.

Speaks was accused in connection with an episode Sunday afternoon in which, after having been arrested by Officer Basnight and turned over to Officer Harris, he gave Harris a decidedly thorough "cussing." He was fined \$50 and costs on the first count, and \$5 and costs on the second.

Alphonso Small, colored, alias "Devil," was fined \$5 and costs on a charge of drunkenness. Testimony of State's witnesses was in effect that Small, while sitting up over a deceased neighbor, became intoxicated and raised considerable of a rough house.

Pruden Banks, colored, was fined \$5 and costs on a charge of being drunk, and Frank Harney, also colored, was fined \$5 and costs in connection with a fight between him and Banks while the latter was drunk.

A term of 90 days in jail was awarded Ed. Gray, colored, who was arrested by Officer Roughton on the Suffolk & Carolina Railroad spur here late Saturday night, with two pop bottles of liquor in his possession. Gray claimed he had found the liquor just a moment before Officer Roughton turned the rays of his flashlight on him. The negro took immediate flight, but fell over a barrel that happened to be in the way, and thus landed in the toils of the law. Gray was under a suspended road term in connection with a similar conviction several months ago, and Prosecuting Attorney LeRoy asked that he be compelled to serve the sentence. There was evidence, however, that Gray was physically unable to do heavy work, and Trial Justice Sawyer gave him the jail term instead of putting into effect the earlier suspended sentence.

Charged with shooting rap, Robert Williams, James Freeman and Floyd Jones, all colored, were fined \$5 and costs each. They were arrested Saturday night by Officer Basnight.

Herbert Brown, colored, was fined \$10 and costs on a charge of assault on Willis Smith, also colored. The evidence was that Brown was a member of a party of four who beat up Smith recently. Two of the others had been arrested and fined at an earlier date.

Edward Moore, living near this city, was acquitted on a charge of assault on a colored youth formerly employed as dishwasher in a downtown restaurant. The evidence indicated no particular damage had been done the colored boy. Moore insisted that he merely slapped the boy in play.

TIRE PRICES BACK TO LEVEL OF 1924

A reduction in tire prices just announced by The B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company, has restored the price levels of tires and tubes in 1924 shows how completely any so-called 'inflation' has been squeezed out of tire prices. In a majority of cases, the new prices match the prices of two years ago.

Mr. Galtier also points out that the new prices, figured in percentages, are 25 per cent or more below the peak prices of last year.

Squabble Over File Aired In Court

Because he hit his father-in-law on the head with a stick of stove-wood after a little unpleasantness over a missing file, Cal Walker, colored, was fined \$10 and costs in recorder's court today on a charge of assault. Trial Justice Sawyer refused to take seriously the defendant's plea of self defense.

The difficulty over the file occurred about the middle of February. The father-in-law, William Martin, had brought it home and had laid it on a box on the back porch. When he returned for it later, it was missing.

Testimony in the case was to the effect that Martin hinted strongly that his son-in-law had had a distinctly personal part in the disappearance of the file. Later, however, the missing tool was found behind the box on which Martin had laid it, evidently by having fallen off it.

"Well, I guess you know where your file is now," Walker was declared to have remarked to the older man. Then, according to the defendant, Martin picked up a flat iron and threw it at him, hitting him in the chest. Walker admitted he retaliated by picking up a stick of wood and "brushing" Martin lightly on the head with it. Martin testified he still felt the effects of the blow.

Walker's wife, who is Martin's daughter, of course, corroborated her husband's version of the affair. The defendant was represented by Attorney Robert Lowry.

Three Killed When Refuse Give Up Cars

Chicago, July 12.—Cleora, one of the recent spectacular McSwain party slaying, counted three more killings today apparently prompted by the desire of hold-up men to obtain automobiles for manhandling expeditions.

A taxicab chauffeur who protested surrendering his car to a pair of robbers was mortally wounded, stripped from his uniform, and thrown from his machine, while less than a block away a young man and young woman sitting in a car in front of the latter's home were slain when they demonstrated against giving up their automobile.

Police are holding Thomas Wayne, aged 24, from whom they obtained a statement implicating himself and a man known only as "Curley."

NUMBER OF KILLED SET AT SIXTEEN

Dover, N. J., July 12.—The number of persons known to have been killed in the explosion of the Naval ammunition depot at Lake Denmark was set at 16 today in a telegram to the chief of Naval operations at Washington from Captain William Slayton, senior officer, at the scene of the tragedy.

SEVEN ARE KILLED IN NORTH CAROLINA

Atlanta, July 12.—Traffic in 11 Southern States killed 34 persons and injured 246, the survey conducted by The Associated Press revealed.

North Carolina led in dead for the week with seven killed and nine injured. Georgia led in injuries with 49.

ROBERT SCOTT HAS MADE PLEA GUILTY

Chicago, July 12.—Robert Scott today pleaded guilty to murder of Joseph Maurer, a drug clerk, for whose slaying the prisoner's brother, Russell Scott, has been sentenced to hang on October 15.

COOLIDGE WANTS REPUBLICANS TO BE RE-ELECTED

This is What He Means When He Points With Pride to the Achievements of Congress

PRaise EXTENSIVE

Emphasis by President of Leadership Displayed in Both Houses Significant, It Is Believed

By DAVID LAWRENCE (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

President Coolidge wants a Republican Congress elected this autumn. He may never issue a direct appeal to that effect as Mr. Wilson did in 1918, but he wants the same result, namely, a legislative body with a majority of his own party in both houses.

This is the construction that will be placed on Mr. Coolidge's unceasing attempt in his meetings with newspaper men here to point with pride to the record of the Congress which adjourned a week ago. There is ample evidence that the President had in mind the campaign which is just beginning and in which the achievements of Congress are to be debated.

Before leaving the National capital, the President let it be known that he thought Congress had done a good job and he recounted some of the various pieces of legislation that had been passed. His praise of the work of Congress was extensive. The fact that he took occasion again after the lapse of several days, to point to the work of Congress, emphasizing this time the leadership displayed in both Houses, is in itself significant.

It is explained by the official spokesmen, on the other hand, that the "great fact" of the record of Congress cannot have been misunderstood as an attempt on the part of the President to take all the glory unto himself, when as a matter of fact there were others entitled to credit. This was what led to the complimentary references to Senator Curtis of Kansas, majority leader in the upper house, and Speaker Longworth of Ohio and Floor Leader Tilson of Connecticut. All three are up for reelection this fall.

The "great fact and experience in parliamentary law" exhibited by Senator Curtis came in for special praise. It being recalled, for instance, that Mr. Coolidge as Vice-President leaped heavily on Mr. Curtis, asking his advice frequently when it was necessary to decide from the rostrum important questions involved in the Senate rules.

As for Speaker Longworth, his leadership in the House was "equally successful" as was that of Colonel Tilson of whom the President saw a great deal more than he did of Mr. Longworth, though this was due to the fact that Mr. Tilson was in direct charge of steering legislation. But at all times the President acted "with the advice and concurrence" of the speaker.

Then as for the entire Congress Mr. Coolidge couldn't see that either body could have been better conducted nor could he see how more constructive legislation could have been adopted in the time available for debate and action.

An interesting thought, Mr. Coolidge was represented officially as unable to recall a time when there was greater harmony between the executive and legislative branch of the Government. Certainly, it was pointed out, not since he had been President, had there been greater harmony. For he has been given the support of Congress on all major items.

The very fact that Mr. Coolidge wanted the leaders of the House to feel that he appreciated their work and that he was not quarreling with them for failing to do a dozen other reasons or another to get accomplished, is characteristic of President's desire to show his good will toward the legislative body. The President does not forget that he came to Washington as Vice-president in 1920 when the popular outcry was that Congress was too subservient to the executive and when the clamor was for an independent legislative body as of old.

And Mr. Coolidge thinks it is worth pointing out that in six years time Congress has gotten back to its original position of coordinate rank with the executive and he wants Congress and the country to know he doesn't begrudge that assertion by Congress of its constitutional independence.

Strictly speaking, however, when the record of Congress is extolled it is the record of the majority.

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COTTON MARKET

New York, July 12.—Spot cotton closed quiet, middling 17.85, a decline of 25 points. Futures, closing bid: July 16.84, October 16.75, December 16.79, January 17.01, March 17.12.