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COOLIDGE HEARS BUSINESS MEN

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REVIEWS INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS.

BARNES HEADS DELEGATION

Assures the President Country Wants to Help Europe Officially or Unofficially.

Washington.—Views of the chamber of commerce of the United States on various international questions were placed before President Coolidge by a delegation headed by Julius H. Barnes, president of the organization.

Discussion at the conference touched on the reparations problem, the world court proposal, and such issues as transportation, the merchant marine, taxation, immigration, soldiers' bonus and the tariff, the delegation taking occasion to reaffirm the chamber's position on each question.

The delegation, which Mr. Coolidge assured was representative of American business, in a summary issue after the conference, said it had informed him that the business element of the country would welcome the opportunity for the United States either officially or unofficially, to be helpful in the solution of European problems, and with the least possible delay.

Reaffirming the chamber's endorsement of the Harding world court proposal, the delegation said it had expressed "gratification" in the measures taken by the American government to that end.

In reference to railroad transportation, Mr. Coolidge's callers said they favored "private ownership and private operation, under fair and just regulation, based upon recognition of the obligation of the railroads toward the public and likewise of the obligations of the public toward the railroads." "The chamber of commerce," the President was informed, "is making a comprehensive study of the transportation problem with the view to presenting recommendations to Congress and the executive branch of the government."

Calling attention to the chamber's opposition to the government engaging in commercial business, the delegation contended that "further efforts should be made to evolve a plan of operation by private citizens, before entering upon direct government operation of government-owned ships." Tax reforms advocated by the delegation included recommendations for the repeal of remaining war excise taxes, readjustment of income surtaxes, establishment of a court of tax appeals and decentralization of the administration of federal income taxes.

Mr. Coolidge was reminded of the chamber's opposition to the soldiers' bonus and its advocacy of a more flexible immigration law and a tariff adjustment board.

Two Killed in Airplane Clash. Fayetteville.—Alfred B. DeMesquita, publisher of The Fayetteville Observer and The Durham Sun, and Sergeant Edward A. Reece, of New York city, were instantly killed in the fall of a privately owned plane at Pope Field, Fort Bragg. The accident occurred while Sergeant Reece was piloting the plane outside of duty hours with Mr. DeMesquita as a passenger. So far as known there were no eye witnesses to the fall of the ship.

The plane burst into flames as it crashed to the ground, and both occupants were dead when taken from the wreckage. The plane in which they were making the flight was the property of Herbert Lutterloh, of this city. It is known that Mr. DeMesquita contemplated the purchase of an airplane and it is supposed that he was making a trial flight with this end in view. Sergeant Reece, while stationed in Texas, took a pilot's course, but it was stated at Pope Field headquarters that he did not finish the course. He had frequently piloted commercial planes outside of duty hours.

The plane, which was said to have been privately owned, was being utilized for the purpose of giving DeMesquita lessons in flying. It was not known at the field which of the men was driving the plane when the accident occurred. It went into a nose dive soon after leaving the ground.

Mr. DeMesquita was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. DeMesquita, of 600 West 113th street, New York city. He came to Fayetteville early in the present year.

EIGHT PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH AT TORONTO.

Toronto.—Eight persons were burned to death in the Wawa hotel, on Lake of Bays, Ontario, according to information received by officials of the Canadian Railway News company, owners of the property.

The information here is that the hotel, which contained 153 rooms, was fairly well filled with summer guests from the United States and Canada, most of whom lost all their baggage and clothing. Clothing was rushed in from Huntsville, Ont., by steamer and narrow-gauge railway and the fire sufferers were then brought out to the railway station where the relief train awaited them.

BARTLETTE MAKES SURVEY

WEEVIL AND DROUGHT PLAYED HAVOC WITH SOUTHERN CROPS.

Says Unless Weevil Damage is Checked, American Cotton Supremacy is Threatened.

New York.—Southern cotton planters have suffered this season a loss, approximately at present cotton prices \$750,000,000 through the ravages of the boll weevil and drought, President E. E. Bartlett, Jr., of the New York cotton exchange, declared in a statement urging the use of more funds to fight the weevil.

Unless the damage done by the weevil is effectively checked within the next few years, America's supremacy as the world's leading cotton grower is seriously threatened, Mr. Bartlett declared.

"Never since the weevil made its appearance in the cotton belt, about 1922, has such alarm been felt as exists today among the cotton planters," Mr. Bartlett said. "After years of procrastination the national government, the state governments, and the leading cotton associations are at last beginning to realize the direct need for drastic action in every section of the cotton belt to reduce the weevil menace to a minimum."

"In view of the huge loss which annually confronts the nation," Mr. Bartlett said, the "amount devoted to fighting the weevil 'seems infinitesimally small.'"

"It would be real economy," he declared, "and a great benefit to the nation and world to devote millions of dollars to exterminating this enemy of the cotton plant."

President Bartlett said the New York cotton exchange this year contributed \$100,000 to fight the pest and that the state of Georgia, the second largest cotton growing state, has contracted for 50,000 tons of calcium arsenate, considered the most effective known instrument for combating the weevil, to be delivered over a period of five years. The United States Steel corporation, through Chairman Gary, has notified the American Cotton association it would contribute \$25,000 annually for the next three years to the boll weevil campaign," Mr. Bartlett said.

"The far reaching blight of the weevil," he said, "touches even the steel corporation. There are eight steel ties on each bale of cotton, and the crop loss this year, due chiefly to the weevil, is estimated at about 6,000,000 bales. This means that cotton growers will require 48,000,000 fewer steel ties to bale the crop."

"The boll weevil," Mr. Bartlett asserted, "is the most dangerous of pests because it so thoroughly fortifies itself against extermination. Unfortunately," he said, "there is a great shortage of calcium arsenate and if other states were to follow the example of Georgia in ordering the product, there would not be enough produced in the world to cover the infected parts of the cotton belt."

Powerful "Bootleg Ring" Caught.

Washington.—Department of justice officials declared that the leaders in the largest and most powerful "bootleg" ring in the United States have been taken into custody in the wholesale arrests made at Savannah, Ga., under direction of Federal agents. Additional arrests are anticipated and it was stated that the case might lead to some state and Federal officers.

William Haaf, a one-time grocery clerk, is described as the principal leader of a ring which officials here claim operated a flotilla of craft, had its own cement lined storehouse in the swamps along the Georgia and Florida coasts, and supplied enormous quantities of liquor along the Atlantic seaboard as far east as New Jersey, over the south, and as far west as St. Louis, Chicago, and Cleveland.

BANDITS ROB 170 IN DETROIT INN

ESCAPE IN AN AUTOMOBILE AFTER KILLING MOTORCYCLE POLICEMAN.

MANY OF WOMEN SWOON

Robbers All Heavily Armed Shot Into Ceiling at Intervals to Intimidate Victims.

Detroit.—Seven gunmen held up the Allendale inn at Warren and Snyder streets, lined up about 170 persons at the inn, and obtained money and jewelry valued at several thousand dollars. Four persons, including one woman, were shot and seriously injured. One of the injured persons was George D. Wilson, vice president of the Wilson Boyd company.

The gunmen escaped in an automobile. A short time later an automobile containing seven men, believed to be the same ones who held up the inn, was seen in Monroe, about 40 miles southwest of here. The night policemen in Monroe approached the automobile and one of the persons in the machine shot and instantly killed him.

Two of the gunmen stayed outside of the roadhouse while three entered from the front door and two from the back. As soon as the men were inside the door they all began firing through the crowded dance hall. Women screamed and fainted.

One bandit guarded the front door, while another guarded the rear. All of the men inside the roadhouse were heavily armed and those on guard showed two guns. They stripped jewelry from the women and money from the pockets of the men. In their haste the gunmen searching the guests tore diamonds from rings and stickpins with their teeth.

The identified injured guests at the roadhouse are:

George D. Wilson, prominent clubman and vice president of the C. R. Wilson Body company, of Pontiac, Mich., shot in the right shoulder.

Joseph L. Weber, Detroit, shot in right knee.

Miss Lucille Leroy, Detroit, shot in the right arm.

Two other men suffered injuries, but were removed before police officers arrived.

The policemen killed at Monroe was Oscar Reinhardt, 30, a world war veteran.

3,000 Miners Lost Lives Since 1900.

Chicago.—More than 3,000 miners have lost their lives in 19 mine disasters in the United States since 1900 in which only those taking a toll of more than 100 lives are included, according to records available here. They were the following:

Birmingham, Ala., May 5, 1910, 175 dead.

Bricelville, Tenn., December 9, 1911, 100 dead.

Butte, Mont., June 9, 1917, 156 dead.

Cherry, Ills., November 13, 1909, 289 dead.

Cheswick, Pa., January 25, 1904, 182 dead.

Coal Creek, Tenn., May 19, 1902, 227 dead.

Dawson, N. M., October 22, 1913, 261 dead.

Eccles, W. Va., April 28, 1914, 181 dead.

Ennis, W. Va., December 30, 1908, 100 dead.

Finleyville, Pa., April 23, 1912, 115 dead.

Hanna, Wyo., June 30, 1903, 235 dead.

Jacob's Creek, Pa., December 19, 1907, 230 dead.

Johnstown, Pa., July 10, 1902, 113 dead.

Littleton, Ala., April 8, 1911, 128 dead.

Marianna, Pa., November 28, 1908, 154 dead.

Monogah, W. Va., December 6, 1907, 360 dead.

Telluride, Colo., November 20, 1921, 100 dead.

Virginia City, Ala., February 20, 1921, 100 dead.

Virginia City, Ala., February 20, 1905, 160 dead.

Dawson, N. M., February 8, 1923, 120 dead.

Typhoon Drowns 100 at Hong Kong.

Hong Kong.—More than 100 persons were drowned and about 100 persons killed and injured ashore, and about 50 junks and sampans capsized during a typhoon at Macao.

Many persons were entombed when houses collapsed.

FIVE PEOPLE KILLED WHEN PLANE CRASHES.

Pensacola, Fla.—Four men and one woman were killed instantly when a commercial seaplane piloted by Albert J. Whitted of St. Petersburg, Fla., crashed into Santa Rosa sound near Camp Walton, 40 miles from Pensacola.

The dead: Mrs. Hubert H. Harper, about 25, wife of a Birmingham, Ala., newspaper man; Albert J. Whitted, 30, former naval aviator, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Fraser Patterson, 18, son of a prominent pensacola lumberman; Hugh D. Brown, Sylacauga, Ala.; S. D. Castleman, 35, traveling salesman, Sylacauga, Ala.

Flying at an altitude of about 200 feet, the propeller suddenly became loosened, cutting off the entire rear portion of the fuselage. The wrecked machine dropped into 12 feet of water, all five of the occupants being killed by the crash. One piece of the broken propeller flew across the sound, about 200 yards, into the woods on the mainland, the other across into the gulf.

CASE OF MUCH IMPORTANCE

DECISION MADE BY FEDERAL JUDGE WOODROUGH AT BROOKLYN.

One of Most Far-reaching Pronouncements in Enforcement of Prohibition.

New York.—Seizure of alien rum running vessels that hover outside the three mile limit was held legal by Federal Judge Woodrough. The decision was handed down in the case of the British ship Marion Mosher, seized while transferring a liquor cargo to the American owned motorboat J. H. B., eight miles off the coast near Fire Island, July 27, 1922.

Bonds of the Detroit Fidelity and Surety company, given after the seizure of the craft as a guarantee that it would proceed to its supposed destination, St. Johns, New Brunswick, were declared forfeited, it being contended that although the vessel arrived at the Canadian port, she did not have her cargo, thereby violating her agreement.

The Marion Mosher case brought about a special session of President Harding's cabinet and an exchange of conversations with Great Britain. The American government held that the Mosher and other foreign vessels seized as rum runners should be released provided they proceeded immediately to their avowed destinations.

The United States attorney, in his argument before Judge Woodrough said: "It is clear that, irrespective of the cabinet's determination as a matter of diplomatic policy, to release foreign ships having cargoes of liquor when apprehended outside the three mile limit, there was ample legal authority for the seizure and forfeiture of the Marion Mosher and her cargo of liquor."

Judge Woodrough held that seizure of foreign ships engaged in smuggling liquor into this country was justifiable even though they were on the high seas.

"When a ship hovers around the American coast," he said, "although three miles from shore, with intent to violate the laws and is caught in the attempt to smuggle intoxicating liquors, and it is shown that it is in contact with the shore, its seizure, thought it be of foreign registry and outside the three mile limit, is justifiable."

Ten Dead in Utah Flood.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—Ruin and desolation mark the path of the floods which swept over thousands of acres of land in the fertile valleys of Northern Utah when the flood gates of the Altitudinal Wasatch range loosed great torrents upon the farm settlements and communities nesting along the border of the mountains.

Ten persons were known to have perished and the towns of Farmington and Willard were badly damaged, the total property damage exceeding \$1,500,000, according to estimates.

Search for nearly a score of persons reported missing since the flood struck was continued by national guardsmen, ordered to duty in the stricken area. At Willard, the guardsmen started digging into great heaps of debris, believing that more dead might be found.

The rescue workers encountered muck nearly 30 feet deep, while along the north and south of the little town lay strewn for miles the wreckage of hundreds of farm buildings.

RETAIL MERCHANTS HEAR DR. DANIEL

MEMBER OF CLEMSON COLLEGE FACULTY DELIVERS ADDRESS AT CONVENTION.

ELECT WARRINER PRESIDENT

Final Day of Convention Devoted Chiefly to Election of Officers and Address on Advertising.

Richmond, Va.—Establishment of local associations throughout the South was urged in resolutions adopted at the final session here of the seventh annual convention of the Southern Retail Merchants' association, which was attended by more than 400 retailers.

The final day of the convention was devoted chiefly to the election of officers and addresses on advertising and the value of the human element in business. T. E. Warriner of Lawrenceville, Va., was elected president to succeed A. L. M. Wiggins of Hartsville, S. C., R. S. Bristow of Urban, Va., and K. M. Biggs of Lumberton, N. C., were elected vice presidents and W. T. Dabney of Richmond was chosen secretary.

Dr. D. W. Daniel, Clemson College, S. C., David Owens, Charlotte, N. C.; Ernest B. Lawton, Richmond, and Mr. Warriner were among the speakers. Mr. Daniel delivered an inspirational talk on "The Golden Rule in Trade," urging the adoption of the principle as the best method of advertising.

Declaring that time clocks were "intended to check convicts in their cells and 'not to keep tab on boys and girls in a store,'" Mr. Owens urged retail merchants to employ the "honor system" of handling their employees. Stressing the value of the "personal touch" in business Mr. Owens said stores should develop their own sales forces by taking young men and women from good homes and training them for business. "Don't make the mistake," he said, "of putting cheap and inexpensive help in any branch of your store organization."

10,000 Persons at Bridge Meet.

Charlotte, N. C.—August 17, 1923, will be recalled for many years as one of the most remarkable days of Mecklenburg and York counties, linked together since March 1 by a noble steel and concrete structure across the Catawba river on the new road connecting Charlotte and York, because on that date the citizenry of the two counties fraternized at an all-day picnic at the bridge and were hosts to hundreds of visitors from other counties, near and far.

A gathering estimated at 10,000 persons attended the outing, a stream of automobiles bearing them by highways and side roads from early morning to noon so that a veritable migration seemed in process. Distinguished men of the two Carolinas addressed the crowds morning and afternoon, bountiful picnic dinners being spread at 1 o'clock by family and friend groups.

Governor Cameron Morrison, of North Carolina; Governor Thomas G. McLeod, of South Carolina; Senator N. B. Dial, of South Carolina; Congressman W. F. Stevens, of South Carolina; Dr. J. B. Johnson, mayor of Rock Hill, S. C., and Heriot Clarkson, associate justice of the supreme court of North Carolina, were the chief speakers, addressing the thousands as they sat and stood on the hillside of a natural amphitheater on the land of W. M. Boyd at the Mecklenburg county end of the bridge.

Mrs. Harding Leaves White House.

Washington.—Quietly and almost unnoticed, Mrs. Florence Kling Harding left the White House, never to return except possibly as a guest.

None of the crowds, none of the cheers, none of the excitement and none of the pleasurable anticipation that marked her arrival at the executive mansion on March 4, 1921, attended the departure in the gloom of a rainy night. The contrast was so noticeable that those who accompanied her away were plainly moved, but Mrs. Harding, herself, whatever may have been her inner emotions, walked out of the door, across the portico and into the waiting automobile as calmly as she has passed through all the succession of trying hours that have been her lot in the last 15 days.

Dokies to Meet Next in Providence.

Portland, Ore.—Providence, R. I., was chosen for the next biennial convention, in 1925, of the Imperial Palace, Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorassan, at the closing session here of the sixteenth convention.

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