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VOL. TWENTY-THREE

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1933

NUMBER FORTY

Charge Two Men Demanded Money From Lindbergh

Prisoners Arrested At Roanoke Held For Attempt To Extort Sum Of \$50,000

Roanoke, Va., Feb. 9.—Two men were arrested today and charged with attempting to extort \$50,000 from Col. Charles A. Lindbergh by threats of kidnapping his second son.

Joe Bryant, 19, and Norman Harvey, 26, both residents of Roanoke, were taken into custody shortly after they attempted to cash a \$17,000 check which police operatives, posing as representatives of the famous flier, had planted in a stump.

The second threat to Col. Lindbergh was made public less than twelve months from the night his first son was spirited away from his crib and murdered in the Sourland Hills of New Jersey.

Bryant and Harvey denied knowledge of threatening letters sent to Col. Lindbergh and asserted they did not have correspondence with Robert C. Johnson, chief of the Roanoke police identification bureau, who registered at a local hotel and posed as a representative of Col. Lindbergh, depositing letters in a hollow stump.

Mrs. Harvey, apprehended by police when Harvey sought to get in an automobile she occupied, was held tonight for questioning.

Police here refused to divulge the contents of the letters sent to Colonel Lindbergh, threatening his second baby, but later made public two of them. They said the letters were turned over to New Jersey police by the Colonel and were referred to Roanoke police by Federal authorities.

Captain Schwarzkopf, of New Jersey police, who turned the letters over to postal authorities, said he felt the case here had no connection with the kidnapping and subsequent slaying of the first Lindbergh child.

The letters will be turned over to United States authorities, with whom the local officials have been working. C. E. Gentry, who was assistant United States Attorney here when the letters were received early in December, requested the Roanoke police investigation.

Chief Johnson, using the name of "John J. Jones," carried on correspondence with writers of the extortion notes and arranged to deposit extortion money in the stump. They reached an agreement to reduce the amount to \$25,000 and still later to \$17,000. No deposit was made, however.

For 144 hours one or the other of two Roanoke officers watched the stump to catch the extortionists, but without success. They stopped watching and deposited more letters, which disappeared. The final arrangements were to leave a check for \$17,000 and wait for the extortionists to take it to a bank to have it cashed. Today Bryant walked into the bank with the check. The teller, W. M. Skelton, warned by police, stepped back to the vault and telephoned the officers. He then began tying up some receipts, making a remark about the size of the "big bills" that were requested.

Officers in plain clothes were waiting when he returned to the window—the city hall is only a block away. The package was pushed through.

"Thank you," said Bryant, as he walked away, smiling.

Chief Johnson and Special Officer Howard Ferguson followed Bryant from the bank. A block away he was joined by Harvey and when Harvey saw Johnson, he began to run. The two went in different directions, but were soon captured. Harvey as he sought to get into a car occupied by his wife, Ethel, and a small child.

Specimens of Bryant's handwriting were taken at police headquarters and Johnson, who is a handwriting expert, expressed the opinion that it was that of the man who wrote the extortion letters.

Bryant said he discovered the letter accidentally about 5 o'clock yesterday.

"You thought you were striking a gold mine, didn't you?" Police Superintendent J. L. Manning asked. The youth admitted this, asserting he showed the letter to Harvey. He said he did not show the letter to his family, but that Harvey told him he told the Harvey family about it.

Officers quoted Harvey as saying Bryant showed him the letter about 1 o'clock yesterday (four hours before the time Bryant was quoted as saying he found it). Harvey was also quoted as saying he had no connection with the case except that he drove Bryant to the bank as a favor.

Johnson said stories about Bryant having the check varied the different reports.

British Set New Distance Record

Airmen Almost Reached Goal At Cape Town; Frenchmen Will Try To Break Mark

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Two officers of the British Royal Air Force, Squadron Leader O. R. Gayford and Flight Lieutenant G. E. Nicholls, set a new world's non-stop long-distance air record Wednesday by flying 5,843 miles from Cranwell, England to Walfish Bay, Union of South Africa.

Immediately after news of their success had been received, two French aviators, Lucien Bossoutrot and Maurice Rossi, announced they would start out early Thursday for Java or South America, depending upon weather conditions, in an effort to break this mark. They had their monoplane ready as Istres, France.

Meanwhile, Capt. James A. Mollison, who is attempting a speed flight by stages from England to Brazil, arrived at Thies, Senegal, Wednesday, and announced he would take off Thursday morning for the transatlantic leg of his marathon. He is attempting to complete the flight in three and a half days.

Victor Smith, 19-year-old South African aviator, who sought to better Mrs. Amy Johnson-Mollison's record for the England-South African flight, damaged his plane in landing at Oran, Algeria, Wednesday morning and could not continue his flight.

Favor Measure To Stop Road Work

Public Hearing Friday On Bill For Drivers' License Law

The General Assembly's Joint Committee on Roads Wednesday favorably reported a bill to prohibit any new highway construction in the State for two years except in cases of emergency and announced that a public hearing would be held Friday on proposals for a State-wide automobile drivers' license law.

The measure to suspend new highway construction which will be presented to the Senate is a substitute for the reorganization committee's bill prohibiting any new highway building.

E. B. Jeffers, chairman of the Highway Commission, told the committee the proposal was not needed as there was no money with which to build new roads and the commission already had stopped any new construction with State funds, but the group reported it anyway.

Legion Post Plans For 6th Annual Exposition

Wilson, Feb. 8.—Announcement was made today by Marvin L. Newsome, commander of the Robert B. Anderson Post, No. 13, of the American Legion that the local organization is arranged for the sixth annual Automobile Show, Merchants Exposition and Indoor Circus which will be held in the Banner Warehouse on South Tarboro Street during the week of March 6th to 11th.

Commander Newsome has appointed the following executive committee to direct the operation of the annual event: J. D. Bobbitt, chairman; Clarence Winstead, W. H. Whitmore, Milton E. Beland, W. H. Dunn and Samuel F. Dickenson treasurer. The committee has held several meetings and are endeavoring to line up the entertainment for the annual event.

Kingfish Rests



H. S. Senator Huey P. Long, left, and Kingfish, as photographed by the artist, are the stars of the new play, "The Kingfish," at the Grand Theatre.

Blount Hits At Sales Tax

Former State Merchant President Says Measure Would Mean Bankruptcy

Greenville, Feb. 9.—J. H. Blount of this city, in commenting on the proposed sales tax now before the General Assembly as the means of balancing the budget, says:

"It is better to have an unbalanced budget than to single out one class as a means of relieving all others. This proposed general sales tax cannot be passed on to the customer and will mean bankruptcy for thousands of merchants who are now barely able to keep their doors open. An evidence of the present financial stress of the merchants of this State, there are thousands of stores in the cities and towns either vacant or barely able to pay sufficient rent to cover taxes on the property. The chief source of revenue to our cities and largely to our counties is from the ad valorem tax on stores property. Seventy-seven towns and thirty-four counties are now in default and this is largely due to the inability of the owners of business property to meet their taxes. Property in towns and cities carry a double burden—the payment of taxes to the county and to the city. The chain stores are having their burdens, too. Many of them are going into bankruptcy because of their inability to carry on with their leases. This throws the property back to the owners and with absolutely no income therefrom. The taxes, insurance and repairs on this property make a burden greater than he can carry. It is unfair to tax the merchants as a class and thereby relieve large corporate interests that hold lands and property in this State. If it is necessary for us to have a sales tax, it is much more desirable to have one in the form of a selected commodities tax on certain articles which can be passed on to the consumer. Included in these articles should be the necessities of life. The merchants are willing to share their part of the burden, but it would be grossly unfair to undertake to raise the larger portion of the revenue sufficient to balance the budget from a gross sales tax.

The merchants of our state are dependent for their success on industry and agriculture. With industry idle and the farmers getting very little for their products, the merchants are naturally seriously affected and they are all in the same class. The laborer is out of work and the farmers are unable to meet expenses. If this burden is placed upon the merchants, it will mean that thousands of stores will close within the next year. Especially will this be true of our border-line merchants who will be forced to sell their merchandise higher than their competitors across the line, or close their doors. The masses of the people of North Carolina are not going to stand for a tax of this kind when there are corporations in the state still making as much money as they ever did, and yet are not sharing this burden of taxation in the way in which they should. The people are alert to the situation and are informed as they have never been before, and the lawmakers of this General Assembly will have to give an accounting to those who sent them there as their representatives for the stand which they take in this crisis."

The East Carolina Warehousemen's Association met here Wednesday with seventy members from the following markets in attendance: Greenville, Kinston, Robersonville, Rocky Mount, Tarboro, Wendell and Wilson. The meeting was held at 2:00 in the municipal building with Billy Morton of Forbes-Morton warehouse, Greenville, presiding. Plans for operation of warehouses with changes tending towards a more profitable basis for another season were discussed.

1,000 EXTRAS EMPLOYED

More than 1,000 veterans of the World War were engaged to appear in the latest Laurel and Hardy feature comedy, "Pick Up Your Troubles," now being shown at the Paramount Theatre.

The veterans aided in the filming of the front line trench sequences, and afforded the popular comedians an opportunity to secure excellent bits of comedy. Jackie Lynn, Donald Dillaway, Mary Carr, Billy Gilbert, Tom Kennedy and many others are in the supporting cast of this Hal Roach-M-G-M feature.

Davidson County farmers report a good crop of 5,000 pounds of lespedeza crops.

Predicted in Roosevelt Cabinet Selections



These two men top the list as possible members of President-elect Roosevelt's cabinet, according to Washington reports. . . . They are (left) Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, as Secretary of the Treasury and (right) Senator Thomas J. Walsh of Montana, as Attorney General. . . . James A. Farley, is expected to be named Postmaster-General.

Pollard Auto Co. Now Showing New Ford V-8

The New V-8 Is Much Larger and Most Powerful Ford Ever Built

The first of the new Ford V-8 cylinder, 112-inch wheelbase motor cars will be displayed here Saturday, February 11th in the showrooms of the Pollard Auto Company, Ford dealers, North Main Street, it was announced today. The showrooms will be open till 10:00 p. m.

The New V-8 is the largest and most powerful Ford ever built. It has new and distinctively modern lines, a most attractive front end, longer wheelbase, larger and roomier bodies, faster acceleration, increased power and speed and is exceptionally economical in operation. With its 75-horsepower, V-8 engine, the New Ford is capable of a sustained speed of 80 miles an hour.

The styling of the 14 body types expresses the new mode in motor car building. The modern note is found in the sloping Vee radiator grill, the skirted fenders, newly-designed headlamps, cowli lamps and bumpers, the curve of the hoodside ventilators, the 20-degree slant of the windshield, the curved roof header, the reverse curve of the rear quarter and the backward sweep of the apron masking the gasoline tank.

The new all-steel bodies are materially wider, almost a foot longer and consequently much roomier. The attractive instrument panel is directly in front of the drive, with a large package compartment at the right side of the instrument board. Front seats in closed cars are fully adjustable. Interior fittings are luxurious. Options in upholstery and a wide

Rotarians Hold Interesting Meet

Inter-City Meeting Will Be Held Here Tuesday Night, Feb. 14.

The Rotary Club of Farmville met in regular session on Tuesday night, with all members present. Paul E. Jones had charge of the program and delivered a snappy and enthusiastic talk on Rotary and the needs of the club. He compared the club with that of Ayden which he stated he had recently visited and found that it was a real live wire with about twenty members; that they had their heads up and were getting something besides gloom out of life in spite of having been much harder hit than Farmville; he called on the Farmville Rotary Club and the business men of Farmville to renew their faith and loyalty to the Rotary Club and to their town to the end that one should be happier for living here.

He then introduced Jack Beckwith, the Episcopal Rector, who made one of the most interesting talks of the year on "Why go to Church." He explained the difference between work and worship, by a most unique psychological method, showing that they were diametrically opposed, stating however, that a perfectly balanced life would alternate between the two.

The club members then entered into an informal discussion of the best way to induce those men who would mean so much to the Rotary Club and who would be greatly benefited by it, to become members, with particular emphasis on former members.

The program committee announced that plans were going along for the inter-city meeting to be held here on next Tuesday night at 7:00 o'clock. Enough of the Clubs in the Group had been heard from so that it appears certain that more than 70 Rotarians will be on hand for the meeting.

Eighty-five percent of the \$3,662.50 loaned to 224 farmers in Alexander county from the Government seed loan fund has been repaid.

Government In Business Attacked by Committee

Hookerton Man To Tell of Blackbeard

Wilbur C. Ormond Will Go On the Air Relating Adventures of Pirate

Hookerton, Feb. 8.—A series of radio skits written by Wilbur C. Ormond, Hookerton, based upon the adventures of Blackbeard, the pirate, will be broadcast from radio station WBT, Charlotte, N. C., beginning Thursday, February 9, at 9:15 p. m. North Carolina shores were the chief haunts of Blackbeard. Many traditions center around Bath, Washington, Elizabeth City and other points due to visits of the famous pirate.

The story in the skits opens on the sloop "Queen Anne's Revenge," commanded by Blackbeard, sailing just north of the Bahamas. The plot opens with a battle between the pirate's sloop and a Dutch merchant ship, which is captured. Other events follow.

The facts are historically correct. The author, who has been a teacher of history, spent the past fall studying in the North Carolina State Library. He also spent some time visiting the haunts of Blackbeard in Bath and other places.

The author is a native North Carolinian, a graduate of Duke University, Durham, holds the M. S. degree from State College, Raleigh, and has done post-graduate work at the University of Chicago. He has taught in the high schools of Hickory, Lenoir and Wake counties, Hookerton and Whitakers. His home is at Hookerton.

The series will run 12 days.

Three Bills For Farmers Likely

Cotton Pool, Mortgage Relief and Domestic Allotment Measures Being Framed

Washington, Feb. 8.—Out of a busy day of committee work on farm relief measures there emerged tonight the indication that no less than three separate bills would be reported to the Senate by the middle of next week.

While several details remained to be worked out, a banking sub-committee struggling with the farm mortgage problem reached virtual agreement upon the Hull plan of a plan which would use \$500,000,000 of Federal credit to postpone foreclosures for two years.

Members of the agriculture committee predicted that the Smith bill designed to cut down 1933 cotton production by 3,500,000 bales through an ingenious government cotton pool plan would be reported favorably on Saturday and the domestic allotment bill early next week.

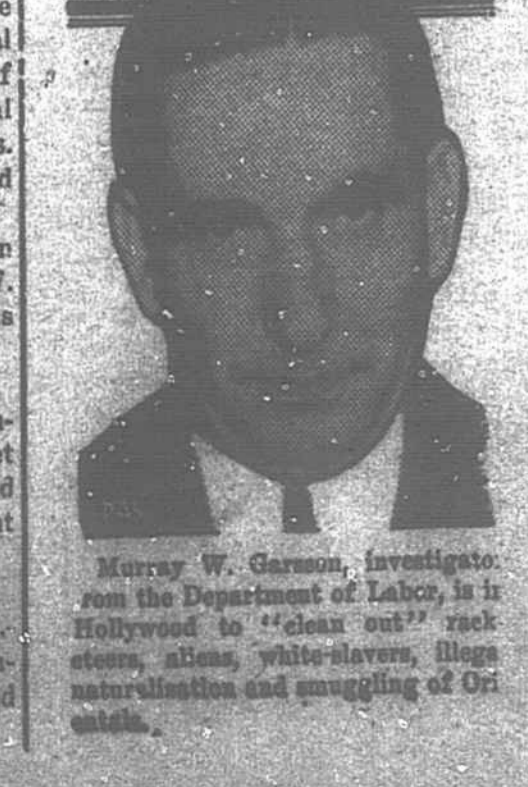
Senators backing the Smith and Hull bills have hope of showing their through to enactment at the present session as emergency measures, although realizing that time is growing short and that they have yet to receive the approval of either house.

Few, if any, believe, however, that the allotment plan, passed by the House, will become a law this session in view of the reported opposition of President Hoover and the difficulty of over-riding a veto.

Nevertheless, the agriculture committee will take up that controversial measure again on Saturday in the hope of deciding definitely then what commodities should be included in it and reporting it to the Senate early next week.

The allotment plan got little attention from the committee in today's executive session, as most of its time

Cleaning Out Hollywood



Murray W. Garrison, investigator from the Department of Labor, is in Hollywood to "clean out" rick shams, alias white-slavers, flag naturism and smuggling of Orizaba.

Elimination of Competition With Private Business Asked

Washington, Feb. 8.—Elimination of more than two score instances in which it found the government unjustifiably competing with private business was recommended to the House today by a special committee.

The preliminary report by the committee on government competition with private business said its nationwide survey had developed "at least 232 items of trade, industry, and personal and professional service affected by the governmental competition for which redress is sought."

As a measure of relief, it proposed changes ranging from a discontinuance of farm board stabilization operations to an increase in parcel post rates.

The committee agreed unanimously in 27 recommendations. Cox (D. Ga.) disapproved some of the farm board proposals as well as one for the sale of the inland waterways barge line.

Besides sale of the barge line, the committee proposed: Discontinuance of parcel post solicitations by postmasters, and higher rates to pay the cost of the service. Abolishment of army transport and Panama railroad ship service.

Discontinuance of farm board stabilization operations; more close and direct supervision of agricultural cooperatives; identical interest rates of federal loans to cooperatives and private middlemen and a limitation of cooperatives' purchases to produce of their members.

Centralization of architectural supervision and the employment of local engineers and architects where practicable.

Restriction of the activities of army, navy and marine bands. Award to private industry of much work now done in arsenals and navy yards.

Elimination of army canteens and post exchanges except in remote or isolated locations with federal taxes to be levied on their goods as well as those outside reservations.

Cessation of the manufactures of clothing and leather goods at the war department factories in Philadelphia and Jeffersonville, Indiana, and by the navy at Brooklyn.

Granting of contracts for public construction to private individuals so far as possible.

Competitive bidding by private industry for dredging, levee and flood control work.

Limitation of prison production to goods that are non-competitive.

Use of private hospitals for veterans. Discontinuance of Warehousing. Numerous other minor activities also were protested.

As a whole the committee felt that the operations of the federal government in the field of private enterprise have reached a magnitude which threatens to reduce private initiative, curtail the opportunities and infringe upon the earning powers of tax-paying undertakings while steadily increasing the levies upon them.

was taken up with hearing the merits of the Smith plan urged by Senators George, (D., Ga.), and Connally (D., Texas).

As presented by them in detail, with the aid of Senator Smith (D., S. C.), its sponsor and ranking minority member of the committee, it provides for assembling in a pool all the cotton controlled by the federal farm board or other government agencies, as the first step.

The government then would invite cotton producers who are willing to cut their 1933 production 30 per cent to take an option on an amount of the pooled cotton equal to the quantity which they agreed to forgo planting.

This option would entitle the farmer, in effect, to buy the cotton at the present market price, without putting up any money, and then, on August 15, to sell it, keeping the difference expected to result from a price rise as his profit.

Smiling broadly after the committee meeting, Senator Smith said he was confident the measure would be reported favorably on Saturday.

There was some discussion on the part of Western Senators in the committee on the practicability of applying a similar plan to wheat, but it was pointed out that the farm board has disposed of the bulk of its stabilization stock.

Planting of lespedeza in Rutherford County increased from 140 acres in 1929 to 1,490 acres in 1932, according to facts gathered by the county farm agent.

Cumberland County tobacco growers will try out the new plan of covering their plant beds with grain straw this season. Several demonstration beds have been arranged.