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TRADE EXPERTS MEET TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR SOUTHERN EXPORT TRADE

Manufacturers, Bankers, Shippers and Freight Rate Experts Gather to Devise Plans For Expansion Export Trade South Atlantic States.

(By The Associated Press.) GREENSBORO, March 12.—Manufacturers, bankers, shippers, freight rate experts and foreign trade specialists of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, are gathered here for the opening of the foreign trade conference today, called to devise plans for the expansion of the export trade of the south Atlantic states through their ports in general, and through Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Brunswick and Jacksonville in particular. Thirty cities are represented by delegations here. Tentative plans for discussion today call for the adoption of measures to overcome proposed cancellation of the new export rates to south Atlantic ports, established a few months ago by the railroad administration, which rates placed these ports on a parity with New York and other eastern seaboard points. The sponsors for the conference fear the big trunk railroad lines will make an effort to re-establish the old alleged discriminatory rates and the chief reason for calling today's meeting was the desire to plan now to defeat freight rate cancellation. The conference will endeavor to get together on a plan to fight the proposed sale of the American merchant marine, leaders here making an effort to have the government retain control of the ships in the hands of the shipping board for ten years at least. The formation of a south Atlantic foreign trade association composed of the chambers of commerce of the cities of the four states is another project that will receive attention today. Development of trade with Latin America is one of the objects of the men here. There will be two sessions of the conference today, ending with a banquet tonight. Governor Bickett, of North Carolina, Senator E. D. Smith, of South Carolina, Senator E. D. Smith, of South Carolina, South Atlantic Export Company, are among the speakers. Members of the Southern Traffic League and specialists in freight rates and foreign commerce will also address the conference.

SERIOUS TEACHER SHORTAGE FACES COUNTY

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The country is faced with a serious shortage of school teachers, chiefly through failure to provide adequate salaries, according to reports to the United States bureau of education. Conditions are becoming slightly better, however, the reports state, in some sections, compared with those of last October when the National Education Association conducted an inquiry into the situation. Based on returns from state school officials, the reports show that on February 13, last, there were 18,279 schools closed because of lack of teachers, and 41,000 being taught by teachers characterized as "below standard, but taken on temporarily in the emergency." Greater shortages are shown to exist in Southern states. Salaries paid teachers in 1918, statistics show, were on an average of \$606 for elementary teachers and \$1,031 for those teaching in high schools. In 190 state, county, city and private normal schools, representing 60 per cent of the total normal schools in the country, there were 11,503 fewer students enrolled November 1, 1919, than during the pre-war period. A. O. Neal, of the bureau's division of rural education, said today there is an increasing withdrawal of men teachers from the profession, the per centage of male teachers in 1918 being only 17 per cent or one in every six. Reports from southern states show the following shortages: Virginia 2,000; Georgia 1,500; and North Carolina 700. The number of substitute or "sub-standard" teachers employed in those states reporting included Virginia 3,500; Georgia 3,000; and South Carolina 1,000.

MASS MEETING TONIGHT TO DISCUSS LIBRARY

There will be a mass meeting tonight at 8 o'clock in the county courthouse, called by the several committees from the library, to discuss the proposition of a public library for the city of Gastonia. It is proposed at this meeting to have a number of short, snappy talks by those interested. It is also planned that there will be an exhibition proposed plans and specifications of a proposed building. It is earnestly desired that all who have the interests of a library for the city at heart be present in full force. The meeting will not last long and it promises to be interesting.

S. J. DURHAM SPEAKS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Makes Eloquent Plea Before Rotary Club For Modern Public Library For Gastonia — New Members Received — Interesting Program Carried Out at Semi-Monthly Luncheon Wednesday.

An interesting feature of the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Gastonia Rotary Club held at the Armington hotel Wednesday was an address by Mr. Stone- wall J. Durham, who was present as a guest of the club, on "Gastonia's Need of a Larger Public Library." Mr. Durham, always eloquent and convincing in his presentation of any matter on which he speaks, was exceedingly happy and earnest in his plea for larger library facilities for the city. He stressed the point that things material are of worth only as they are directed by the power of knowledge. A well equipped public library furnishes the means whereby the citizenship may obtain the knowledge, the possession of which will give them not only enlarged capacities for handling the problems of life but will bring to them rare joys in the intellectual and spiritual realm as well. Mr. Durham's talk was heard with intense interest by the club members and their guests and no doubt will prove quite effective in stimulating local interest in the campaign now on looking to the establishment of an up-to-date public library. Following Mr. Durham's address the club went on record unanimously as endorsing the movement now on foot looking to the early establishment of a modern public library in Gastonia. Other guests of the club were Prof. Robert L. Durham, president of Southern Female Seminary, at Buena Vista, Va.; Mr. Baxter Durham, of Raleigh; Mr. Wright T. Dixon and Mr. Albert Milbourn, of Gastonia. Wednesday's program was in charge of W. L. Balthus, W. P. Grier and G. B. Cooker and was lively and interesting throughout. Six new members, chosen at the previous meeting, were present and were welcomed into the fold. They were J. L. Beal, P. E. Falls, Roland S. Clinton, J. White Ware, Hugh E. White and W. J. Alexander. A sextette by these new members, accompanied by George Cooker at the piano, was an entertaining feature of the program. Three new members were elected as follows: W. Y. Warren, haberdasher; S. Elmer Speicher, lumber and George W. Smith, retail coverer. Short talks were made as follows: "What Rotary Is," by J. W. Atkins; "The Glad Hand," by P. W. Garland; "Let's Go to Greenville," by J. H. Separk. John L. Beal was appointed chairman of the committee on boys' work for the coming year, and it is very likely that the club will devote considerable attention during 1920 to this feature of Rotary's program. In the absence of President A. G. Myers, the meeting was presided over by J. H. Separk.

RED SOX LEAVE FOR WACO

CHICAGO, March 12.—The Chicago American League baseball team will leave for Waco, Texas, for spring training. Manager William Gleason and 35 members of the White Sox including Eddie Cicotte, the veteran pitcher, who has been holding out for a better contract, will make up the party. Cicotte announced yesterday he was ready to sign a contract "if an amicable agreement can be reached" and said he would accompany the team south regardless of whether he had signed. Eddie Collins, second baseman, will not accompany the team tonight. He is in Philadelphia and has asked permission to remain there a week, after which he will leave to meet the team in Dallas next week for the opening game of the spring series. The White Sox will be the last major league team to go into training.

BRITANNIA AND JANIE ARE BOTH IN COURT

Before Magistrate W. Meek Adams yesterday afternoon Misses Britannia and Janie Smith, palmists, were arraigned for resisting arrest. They were bound over to court under a \$25 bond each. The Misses Smith, with their mother have lived in tents for sometime out side the city limits on the Gastonia-Lowell road and were found Wednesday evening by Deputy Sheriff J. W. Cole, policeman A. B. Hord, and O. F. Adendorff, performing their work in the city without license and placed under arrest, but not without a lively encounter. In the municipal court a fine of \$35 and the cost was placed on each. At this time both the city and county license were applied for and granted.

AMERICAN LEGION FAVORS BONUS FOR SOLDIERS

Goes on Record as Unanimously In Favor of Some Sort of Bonus For Ex-Soldiers — Warm Discussion Precipitated on Floor of Post.

At the most largely attended and most enthusiastic meeting of the Legion held since its organization, Gaston Post, No. 23, American Legion unanimously went on record last night as endorsing the action of the national legislative committee of the American Legion favoring a bonus of \$50 per month for service for all ex-soldiers, sailors and marines. The post also adopted a resolution urging Representative Hoey and the North Carolina Senators in Congress to push to a thorough finish the proposed investigation of the recent outrages at the military hospital at Oteen.

The latter resolution and the subsequent discussion that followed precipitated one of the warmest debates on the floor of the post. Mayor Cherry opposed the resolution on the ground that the American Legion had no business interfering in the affairs of the hospital, that the reported incidents at Oteen were more or less products of distorted newspaper reports and that the incident of the "cockroaches and mice" in the food served the sick soldiers was probably the only instance of mistreatment and that even if this were true, it was nothing more than an exaggerated incident. He was answered in rather caustic terms by several members of the post who had been inmates of the hospital and who cited to him other more flagrant violations of discipline and common decency, viz: The case of guards striking convalescent soldiers over the heads with guns, the reported account of tubercular soldiers being forced to walk up and down steep hills 400 or 500 feet high to attend formations, of soldiers threatened with hemorrhage from the lungs, forced to stand at attention until they dropped and of the most recent case of a soldier who was discharged from the hospital practically barefooted, in the most inclement weather. It was pointed out to Mr. Cherry that such a resolution denouncing these outrages and calling for an investigation was wholly within the sphere of the American Legion, since a number of Legion members had been inmates of the hospital and since members of the Legion had been sent there for the purpose of investigating conditions and had been refused entrance to the grounds or the hospital.

During the course of the debate Mr. Cherry took occasion to digress from the subject under discussion to attack the policy of The Gazette toward the Oteen affair and army conditions in general as reported by ex-service men and reflected in the editorial columns of the newspaper. It was his opinion, he said, that such sentiments came from poor soldiers or those who were sore or had some grievance against the army. After a spirited debate in which several speeches were made in reply to Mr. Cherry the resolution was unanimously endorsed. It was decided at last night's meeting that the Legion hold a feed or banquet on May 10 in connection with Memorial Day exercises in the county and that the Confederate veterans be invited as guests of the post. Post Commander Stephen B. Doley took occasion to congratulate the post on the increasing number of members of the post and to urge upon all present the necessity of enrolling more members.

HIGH SCHOOL SITE ON YORK STREET PURCHASED

Whole City Block on York Street Purchased by City School Board For Proposed High School Site. The special committee appointed by the Gastonia city school board at its last meeting to investigate and purchase a site for Gastonia's proposed new half-million dollar high school building announces the purchase of a whole city block on York street for this purpose. The site purchased lies between York and Lee streets and 7th and 8th avenues in the southern section of the city and is admirably adapted for school purposes. The lot is 460x375 feet. It was purchased from Messrs. W. N. Davis and L. E. Dixon and represents an outlay of \$20,000. This property will give ample ground for playground purposes. The special session of the legislature which meets July 1 will be asked to pass a special act authorizing an election on the proposition of issuing \$550,000 in bonds for the construction of the high school building and additions to the colored school building.

TENNIS CHAMPION UNABLE TO PLAY

NEW YORK, March 12.—Miss Marie Wagner, six times holder of the woman's national indoor tennis title, will be unable to compete in the national championship tournament which meets here next Monday because of an injury to her knee. Mrs. George W. Wightman, the title holder, is now on the Pacific coast, and will not defend her title, it was said today.

125 COAL MINERS FACE ARREST CHARGED WITH VIOLATION LEVER ACT

Result of Indictment Returned by Special Grand Jury — No Names Made Public — Bonds Fixed at \$10,000 and \$5,000.

(By The Associated Press.) INDIANAPOLIS, March 12.—One hundred and twenty-five coal operators or miners of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, and Western Pennsylvania today are facing arrest as the result of an indictment returned yesterday afternoon by a special grand jury here charging them with conspiracy in violation of the Lever fuel control act and the federal criminal code. No names of those indicted have been made public and their identities will not be known until capias are served on them. However, it is known that more than half of the number are operators and that many of the alleged violations of the federal statutes ante-date the strike of bituminous miners, which brought about the investigation by the grand jury. The grand jury has been in session almost continuously since December 17, 1919, and, it is said, examined more than 300 witnesses.

Bonds for those indicted was fixed by United States District Judge A. B. Anderson at \$10,000 in some cases and \$5,000 in others. Penalty on conviction of the charges, either of violation of the Lever law or that part of the criminal code under which the indictment was brought — conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States — provides for a fine of not more than \$10,000 imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. Federal officials said today that capias would be served on those indicted as soon as they could be prepared. No arrests, however, were expected before next week.

MINERS AND OPERATORS RESUME SESSIONS

NEW YORK, March 12.—The subcommittee of miners and operators appointed to negotiate the new wage agreement for the anthracite miners resumed their deliberations in executive session here today. Hope that the award of President Wilson's bituminous coal commission would be available as a basis of settlement in

the hard coal field has virtually been abandoned, and John P. White, miners' representative, refused to sign the report. Officials of the mine workers' union declared that this disagreement will bar any consideration being given the award to the soft coal workers. Both mine workers and operators have agreed to proceed with the negotiations affecting the anthracite field as rapidly as possible in order to prevent a suspension of work in the Pennsylvania hard coal fields when the present working agreement of the union expires.

NO TELLING WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN TREATY FIGHT

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON (March 12)—Nobody could tell today what was likely to happen in the treaty fight.

So many cross-currents have appeared in the negotiations for an acceptable compromise on article 10 that even senate leaders are at a loss to understand where the pact is drifting. Republican leaders consented yesterday to changes in the wording of the disputed reservation, hoping to unite their scattered forces, but were not entirely successful.

Meanwhile, democratic advocates of an agreement undertook to work for the substitute, claiming 30 votes for it, but Senator Hitchcock neutralized their efforts to some extent by rallying his followers to support President Wilson's stand against qualifying the clause. With the uncertainty existing on both sides, it remained to be seen whether the republican or democratic mild reservationists would introduce the substitute, or if it would be submitted to the senate at all. A vote on article 10 is not expected before Saturday.

WILL MAKE EFFORT TO COMPOSE THE DIFFERENCES

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 12.—An effort to compose the differences between the majority and minority of the bituminous coal strike commission will be made by President Wilson, it was said today at the white house.

Officials said that neither the majority nor minority report would be made public if there was a probability of bringing the members of the commission to an agreement on their principal differences — the amount of the wage advance and the hours of work. John P. White's minority report on the bituminous coal strike settlement was submitted today to President Wilson. Meantime, the President was studying the majority report, completed yesterday.

Mr. White, the miners' representative on the commission, refused to discuss his recommendations, but it was understood that he had held for an increase in wages of approximately 35 per cent and for a seven hour day. The majority, Henry M. Robinson, representing the public, and Rembrandt Peale, the operators' representative, recommended a wage advance of approximately 25 per cent and no change in hours and conditions of work. John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who hurried here last night from New York, where he has been attending the anthracite wage conference, conferred today with Mr. White and William Green, secretary of the miners' union, familiarizing himself with the facts. He still declined to make any statement, but it was expected that the full executive committee of the miners would be summoned to consider the future action of the workers.

Secretary said the majority and Mr. White were not far apart on the matter of wages and he was hopeful that the differences could be smoothed out in short conference. The failure of the majority to recommend increased wages conditions proved a serious obstacle to the miners, it was said, and that some of the chief reasons for the failure of the

Contending there are many indications of the spirit of aggression and revenge rising in Germany and dismissing the league of nations as being "almost as effective a barrier against German aggression as the international postal union," the newspaper says: "The American nation, a chivalrous comrade in arms and an old friend, will realize that France in Mr. Wilson's admirable phrase formed the dividing line between democracy and tyranny, cannot afford to take risks."

Mrs. Zoe Klusaid Broekman, society editor of The Daily Gazette, is ill at her home on South street.

Secretary Meredith Makes His Maiden Speech

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, March 12.—In terms of the advertising manager, Secretary of Agriculture Meredith told the members of the Merchants' Association of New York today of his ambition to increase the output of the department's chief product, service. It was the first address made by Mr. Meredith since his appointment and summarized the work done by the men in his department, while at the same time urging the advisability of increasing rather than cutting the appropriations for carrying on the work. Paying tribute to the loyalty displayed by the employees in the department, he deplored a tendency to discuss "waste," "graft" and "soft snaps." "I think it is poor advertising to be talking all the time about the waste, and about the grafters and soft snaps and all that in Washington. I heard a lady say the other day that there were things they did not discuss in her family before the children as they were too young to understand, and that she thought it was all wrong for us in America to be complaining about the government, to be saying that this man and that department is inefficient, even dishonest and so on, because it is poor advertising. There may be some one standing around who believes you mean it; there may be some foreigner who is not acquainted with our ways over here, and he hears you and goes out and repeats your statements to others. How many of us simply fall into the habit of complaining and criticizing? It is poor advertising. Don't do it." The number of farm workers in 1919, 11,700,000, was contrasted to the number in 1870, 5,900,000, the secretary adding that in the five years 1915 to 1919 the average production of cereals per farm worker was 418 bushels. "These figures are interesting," he said, "and particularly so in connection with the high cost of living. If there are more men on the farm farming more acres, each acre producing more per acre, and each man producing more per man, giving each and every one of us today more of the six leading cereals per capita than we have had before, it seems to me the farmer is doing his part pretty well." Farmers increased during the war their