

The Polk County News

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ESTABLISHED MAY, 1894.

100 BANKS ENTER RESERVE SYSTEM

INSTITUTIONS THAT HAVE NOT COME IN NEW SYSTEM ARE SMALL.

SIN FIGURING RESOURCES

More Than Fifty National Banks Failed to Respond—Some State Banks.

Washington.—The new federal reserve system will begin business with membership of at least seven thousand five hundred banks. This was apparent when, at the close of the day on which national banks could notify their intention of accepting the terms of the currency law, less than half of the 7,493 national banks of the country had failed to respond favorably. More than enough state institutions had applied for membership to bring the total to 7,500.

Official count of the banks and tabulation of their resources and liabilities will begin at the treasury department.

Most of the institutions that have not come into the new system are comparatively small, and it is estimated that 97 per cent. of all the capital and resources in the present national bank system is represented by those whose applications are in.

VILLA'S STORY OF KILLING

Rebel Leader Says Englishman Tried to Take His Life.

Chihuahua, Mexico.—General Villa's story of the killing of William S. Benton, told to reporters here, differs but little from the official statement given out at Juarez.

The Juarez statement declared that when Benton reached for his hip pocket Villa knocked him down with a blow of the fist. Villa said that when Benton made this move he poked his own pistol into Benton's stomach and then turned him over to the guards. Villa insisted that Benton came to take his life, and referred to Benton's mission concerning the welfare of his ranch as a pretext to gain admittance. According to Villa, Benton, after the verdict of the courtmartial, confessed his guilt and declined to ask for mercy. He merely requested that his property be turned over to his widow.

Villa contradicted his official report to the American consul at Juarez that Gustav Bauch, a German-American, accused of being a spy, had been brought to Chihuahua. Villa said he knew nothing of him.

The rebel general marked another milestone in his political and military progress from the rustic outlaw of three years ago to the dictatorship of northern Mexico, when he received the homage of his officers and prominent citizens at the gubernatorial palace.

College Course for Winners.

Washington.—Substitution of a year's course in practical training at some agricultural college instead of annual trips to Washington for the young prize winners of the corn, canning, poultry and other agricultural clubs, is the recommendation of the department of agriculture. In the event the young champion's academic training would not enable him to enter the state agricultural college, the department suggests elementary courses in instructions, teaching less advanced instruction work. Officials of the department express belief that such courses would be valuable.

Ex-Senator Teller Dead.

Denver, Colo.—Henry Moore Teller, secretary of the interior in President Arthur's cabinet, and for more than thirty years United States senator from Colorado, died here at the home of his daughter, Mrs. G. E. Tyler. Senator Teller was 84 years old; had been ill two years during which he had many sinking spells, but from which he rallied. In the late seventies, Senator Teller became a person of wide repute because of his activities in the United States senate. His most ardent work was his opposition to the standardization of gold in the monetary system of the nation.

Mississippi Race Riot.

Robbinsville, Miss.—There were no indications here of further trouble between whites and negroes after the race riot, in which Morris Love, white, and two negroes were killed. White men, said to have been incensed by noise a score or more negroes made, formed a posse to arrest them. The negroes, it was claimed, began shooting and Love fell dead. In the exchange of shots two negroes were killed. The white men retreated when their ammunition was exhausted and the negroes fled.

CONGRESSMAN MANAHAN



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Congressional inquiry into the organization and operations of the Chicago and Duluth boards of trade and the Minneapolis chamber of commerce to determine their influence over wheat and flour prices in the country was proposed in a resolution introduced by Representative Manahan of Minnesota.

BORDER PEOPLE AROUSED

MEETING IN EL PASO CHARGES GOVERNMENT IS CONCEALING THE FACTS.

Resolutions Declare Mexicans Have Killed Americans Because They Were Americans.

Washington.—A slumbering Mexican situation was brought quickly to a point of intense international interest by the flash of a message saying William S. Benton, a British subject, had been killed in Juarez by order of Gen. Francisco Villa, the Constitutionalist commander.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador, conferred with Secretary Bryan about it; President Wilson and his cabinet discussed it briefly and the state department ordered a thorough investigation by consular representatives on the border.

El Paso Texas.—Two more Englishmen are reported as having "disappeared" in Juarez.

Gustav Bauch, who was on trial for being a spy, also disappeared in Juarez. Thomas D. Edwards, American consul at Juarez, said that when the friends of Bauch went to visit him with bedding and food he was not in the cell where he had been held incommunicado.

A storm of indignation broke out along the border when it became known that William S. Benton, a British subject and wealthy landholder in Mexico, had been executed by rebels in Juarez.

SUPERVISION FOR STATES

Administration Contemplates No Surrender of Power, However.

Washington.—Conservation—particularly as it affects the building of water power projects in the navigable streams of the country—was added to the chief administration policies under discussion. Conservationists have learned in a preliminary way the answer which the Wilson administration has prepared to the question of whether the federal government of the states shall be supreme in the matter of water rights of navigable rivers.

Briefly the plan's general outline is as follows: Federal permits for water power projects would be given only to individuals or concerns duly incorporated as public utilities.

Public utility commissions of the various states would be expected to regulate operation of the plan by such supervision as would prevent practices of discrimination or monopoly.

Water power rights would be given only to those states which had good public utility laws so that an incentive for careful supervision through new laws would be provided in states having inadequate laws.

COLD WAVE OVER THE UNITED STATES

STORM SWEEPS ACROSS CONTINENT, CAUSING MUCH DAMAGE AND SUFFERING.

NUMBER OF STATES SUFFER

Rain in South and a Blizzard for the Valleys of Ohio and Mississippi.

Washington.—A violent storm swept across the continent from Colorado, causing rain in the Southern states and snow in the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, the lake regions and the north Atlantic states.

St. Louis.—Hail began to fall throughout Missouri and by night had coated the ground in many places with more than an inch of ice. The storm was accompanied by a 30-degree drop in temperature.

Sioux City, Iowa.—Northwest Iowa, eastern South Dakota and northeastern Nebraska are in the grip of a storm. In Sioux City and vicinity the heaviest snow of the season fell, hampering streets and railroad traffic. Reports from South Dakota indicate a 6-inch fall.

Chicago.—A 36-mile an hour wind piled snow in great drifts delayed traffic in Illinois. Several inches of snow fell. The thermometer ranged from 22 to 16 degrees above zero. Frank Kachelhoffer, 75 years old, and his wife, aged 70, were found dead by neighbors in a two-room shack near the river. Death was said to have been caused by lack of food and coal.

Kansas City.—A storm of sleet and snow swept over western Missouri and most of Kansas. Telegraph and telephone service was badly demoralized, few wires working out of Kansas City. The wire situation was worse to west and north and but meager reports are coming in as to the extent of the storm.

Los Angeles, Cal.—So far as railroad communication was concerned, Los Angeles and southern California remained cut off from the world as a result of the record-breaking storm of rain and wind, which swept this region for three days. Reports from the six counties most affected did not materially change the estimate of the total damage amounting to about four and a half million dollars. The greatest anxiety concerns the situation of the three hundred passengers marooned aboard the California limited and the Phoenix express of the Santa Fe train.

DAMAGE BY FIRE IN ATLANTA

McKenzie Building, One of City Landmarks, Gutted by Flames.

Atlanta.—Fully twenty-five thousand spectators in the vicinity of the Candler building throughout Sunday afternoon watched nearly every fireman in the city battle with one of the most dangerous downtown fires in years, which almost completely wrecked the McKenzie building at James and Peachtree streets, a city landmark.

Damage is estimated at being between one hundred thousand and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Five firemen were injured. A number were suffocated by smoke and fumes. One ladderman, E. A. Davis, of engine house, No. 1, fell from the top of a 32-foot ladder in front of the Johnson-Gewinner firm, when it slipped and crashed to the sidewalk. He was carried in a semi-conscious condition to the Ansley hotel, where he received medical attention.

The other injured firemen were hurt by flying glass and falling timbers. None of them were wounded seriously. They were Hoseman Bill Gilbert of headquarters; James Dooley, engine house No. 2; J. G. Medlin, an engineer, engine house No. 4; and Bill Cody of headquarters.

The firms that suffered from the flames were the Johnson-Gewinner company, the Stoddard company, the Stephen A. Ryan real estate office, the Pickard-Deans Drug company, the John Chalmers Tailoring shop, the Georgia Realty and Trust company, the Woodmen of the World lodge, the John D. Babbage real estate offices and the W. R. Jeter contracting concern.

Father of Nation Honored.

Washington.—President Wilson was the central figure at a mass meeting in a downtown theater here under the auspices of the Sons of the Revolution in commemoration of Washington's birthday. Joseph W. Folk, solicitor of the state department, in an address, paid tribute to the founder of the republic as a man "imperfect enough to be intensely human and near enough perfect to be an inspiration to all who honor justice and worship liberty." President Wilson did not speak.

MISS ELEANOR CONNOLLY



Miss Connolly, daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Maurice Connolly of Dubuque, Ia., is one of the belles of Washington society this season.

U. S. IS MOST PROSPEROUS

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE HAS FOUND PROSPERITY ALL OVER COUNTRY.

Federal Reserve Bank Organizers Jubilant About Business Conditions Disclosed on the Trip.

Washington.—The federal reserve bank organization committee, back in Washington after a five weeks' trip through the country, in a statement, announced that its selection of federal reserve cities and definition of reserve districts would not be made until it had carefully considered information accumulated on the trip. The statement said the committee found the country prosperous and learned that bankers and business men are confident of the success of the banking system.

In a supplemental statement, Secretary McAdoo declared he hoped the new system would be established in time to take care of crop-moving contingencies next year, but that if it were not the treasury department would stand ready to place its funds again at the disposal of business men. The committee's statement, in part, is as follows:

"We have spent practically from the 4th of January to the present time in hearing the views of business men and bankers on the problems of dividing the country into not less than eight nor more than twelve districts and of locating in each district the main office of a federal reserve bank. Of the two questions, the division of the country into districts is the more important and difficult. The committee asked those who appeared before it to direct their attention to these two problems. A great many able and impartial business men and bankers have submitted their best information and opinions and always in a spirit of great fairness.

LAST TRIBUTE PAID BACON

Funeral Services Conducted at Christ Church in Macon.

Macon, Ga.—The body of United States Senator A. O. Bacon reached Macon on a special funeral train from Atlanta. Hundreds of Macon people were in waiting at the station and stood with bared heads as the casket was taken from the car and placed in the hearse and transported to the city hall.

The line of carriages on the trip to the city hall was headed by the Macon drum and bugle corps, with muffled drum, and the three local military companies.

With a sergeant of one of the local military companies and a Confederate veteran in gray uniform at either end of the casket, thousands filed by to view the body. It was a tribute such as Macon never paid to any other man.

The body lay in state at the city hall until 10:45 o'clock Thursday, when it was taken to Christ Episcopal church, where the funeral services were conducted at eleven o'clock by Rev. John H. Bunting, the rector.

Food Fish Opposed for Fertilizer.

Washington.—State fisheries officials, Eastern fish dealers and representatives of fish and game organizations were before the house interstate commerce committee to discuss the Linthicum bill to prohibit the use of food fish in the manufacture of fertilizer for interstate commerce. Secretary Redfield of the department of commerce called back to his office before he could testify telephoned his approval of the measure. Most of the witnesses favored the passage of the bill.

CHARLES BECKER'S CASE IS REVERSED

SUPREME COURT GIVES FORMER NEW YORK POLICEMAN A NEW TRIAL.

JUSTICE GOFF IS CRITICIZED

Accused of Prejudice—Cases Against Gunman Stand—Date of Execution of Gunman Will Soon Be Fixed by The Court.

Albany, N. Y.—The conviction of Charles Becker, a former New York police lieutenant, of the murder of Herman Rosenthal, was reversed and the convictions of the four gunmen for the same crime was affirmed by the court of appeals.

Justice Goff, the court held, erred in many of his rulings in Becker's trial, and appeared to be prejudicial in his attitude toward the defendant. The reversal was based solely on these grounds. No attempt was made by the court to say whether Becker was sufficient to warrant his conviction. It was pointed out, however, that the testimony against him was given by witnesses of low class, and as much of it was open to doubt, he therefore, was entitled to a fairer trial than he received.

All of the seven members of the court, except Judge Werner, who acted as presiding judge when the appeal was argued, concurred in the prevailing Becker opinion, which was written by Judge Hiscock. In a dissenting opinion Judge Werner said that the main contentions of the state had been amply proven to warrant conviction. The much-mooted question as to the status of San Schepps, who, the jury in the Becker case decided was not an accomplice to the crime, still is unsettled. The prevailing opinion merely said there was doubt in the minds of some of the court as to the property of excluding Schepps as an accomplice.

The decision in the case of the four gunmen, "Gyp the Blood," "Whitey Lewis," "Dago Frank" and "Lefty Louie" was unanimous. They had averred that the evidence against them was insufficient to warrant conviction and also that the court had erred in handling their cases, but these contentions were held to be groundless.

The date for the execution of the gunmen soon will be fixed by the court.

Chicago Women Vote.

Chicago.—Thousands of Chicago women had their first real experience, with the ballot box and took part in the actual nomination of candidates for the city council. In wards in which women candidates were running in opposition to men for places in the city council, the women candidates toured the wards and hustled for votes in approved political fashion.

A snow storm early in the day delayed many voters and a movement fostered by many suffrage leaders, who believed that women should not formally ally themselves with any specific party, kept hundreds from voting at the primaries.

Burned in Store.

Barber's Junction.—The charred body of Preston Lyster, a clerk, and the testimony of citizens who say that they saw the safe door open and a lamp turned low and burning feebly on the floor near the safe when they were attracted to H. T. Smith's store at this place by a pistol shot at 8 o'clock, go to indicate that a safe was cracked and murder probably committed before the guilty person or persons fled the store and fled with the spoils.

Suspends Considering Freight Rate.

Washington.—An increase of two cents a hundred pounds in the freight rate on cement from Indiana points to Memphis, Tenn., New Orleans, and other destinations in the South, proposed by the Southern and Southwestern Railroads was suspended by the Interstate Commerce Commission until June 26. An inquiry into the advance already has been instituted.

Two Steamers in Plight.

Norfolk, Va.—With a severe snow and wind storm raging on the coast the British steamship Sachem, ashore near Hog Island, north of Cape Charles, and the Ruyersdale, stranded near Little Island, south of Cape Henry, were in more danger than at any time since they struck recently, when it struck, one on Saturday and the other on Sunday. The wind at the Virginia Capes was blowing between 35 and 40 miles an hour from the northeast and the seas were running high and the weather cold.

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