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COLUMBUS, MISS., THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24, 1916.

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RAILROADS STILL REFUSE TO YIELD

WILL ASK CERTAIN CONCESSIONS IF EIGHT-HOUR DAY IS GRANTED.

WANT PERMISSION TO RAISE RATES

Eight Officials Again Confer With President Wilson, Who Remains Firm.

Washington, Aug. 22.—Eight presidents of important railway systems who have been designated to draft the railroad's reply to President Wilson's appeal that they accept his plan for averting a nation-wide strike were in almost continuous session today and tonight, without solving their problem. Late tonight three of the committeemen, Hale Holden of the Burlington; R. S. Lovett of the Union Pacific and Daniel Willard of the Baltimore and Ohio, discussed the situation with the President. They were at the White House for more than an hour and on leaving declined to talk about their visit further than to say they had asked for the conference to "discuss the general situation," and expected to see the President again.

Although some 60 or more presidents are showing a disposition to prolong the negotiation in the hope that the sentiment of business men of the country will be shown opposed to the idea of an eight-hour day, there was a general feeling tonight that a definite answer to President Wilson's demand cannot be much longer postponed. The President is understood to have indicated that he desired his proposal to be fully debated by the executives, but their conferences among themselves have failed so far to develop any concrete plan likely to win.

So far as the presidents would discuss the situation tonight, they still are insistent upon an arbitration of the eight-hour day and all other issues with the employees. As the conferences continued there was less talk of action which would lead to a strike, but some of the executives are expected to fight to the last ditch any plan which would force an eight-hour day upon the roads without some form of arbitration.

"Wild Bill" Latura Killed.

"Wild Bill" Latura, the noted Memphis outlaw, was killed in that city on Tuesday night by two policemen. The following brief account of the killing appeared in yesterday's Commercial Appeal:

"Bill Latura, gun man and desperado, with a record of having killed six of seven men, was killed at 12:30 Tuesday night by two policemen who were entering his place on Poplar Avenue to search for liquor or beer. "Latura was shot four times and instantly killed.

"He had drawn a gun and started firing at the officers.

"He had been a persistent law violator, his place having been raided at least once a week recently. He was under a penitentiary sentence on a charge of gaming.

"He figured in a shooting affray 10 years ago in which he killed four negroes and wounded several others, but escaped on trial by pleading insanity."

Mr. John Moody of Bent Oak spent Monday in the city.

CROP PROSPECTS FAIL TO SHOW IMPROVEMENT

CONDITIONS CONTINUE BAD, WITH SCANT YIELD OF PRODUCE PROMISED.

While reports from other sections indicate better crop prospects, there is absolutely no improvement in conditions in the territory immediately contiguous to Columbus. Farmers who were in the city yesterday state that the outlook has never before been so gloomy, and unite in the prediction that Lowndes county, which under normal conditions produces from 20,000 to 30,000 bales of cotton each year, will not this season market more than 6,000 bales.

The flood which visited this section in July not only ruined cotton, but other crops as well, and one grower who sold 40 cars of alfalfa last year states that his entire yield this season will not amount to 10 car loads.

PROF. HULL HEADS RELIGIOUS BODY

IS NAMED TO SUCCEED GOREE AS PRESIDENT OF S. S. WORKERS.

WOODLAWN GETS THE NEXT MEETING

Two Sessions at New Salem Was One of the Most Profitable Ever Held.

The Lowndes County Sunday School association, which on Sunday afternoon closed its annual meeting at New Salem, in the northern portion of the county, elected Prof. B. G. Hull, of Rural Hill to succeed Mr. J. A. Goree, of this city, as president. Mr. Goree has been at the head of the organization for a number of years and declined to stand for re-election. There were more than 400 people present at the final session on Sunday and an excellent program was given. "The Problem of Holding the Children for Church Services and How to Solve It" was discussed by Prof. Dabney Lipscomb, a member of the faculty of the Industrial Institute and College, and Mr. J. M. Easton, a local layman, a discussion of "Decision Day in Practical Operation and its Importance in the Sunday School" was led by Mr. D. W. Chisholm, one of the field workers of the Mississippi Sunday School Association; an address on "Personal Work for Every Member of the Sunday School, and its Importance" was delivered by Mr. W. N. Puckett; "An I My Brother's Keeper?" was discussed by Mr. E. C. Chapman, a Columbus banker, and Mr. M. O. Cockerham, a local merchant; Miss Thompson, a field worker for the state association spoke on "Intermediate Work," and other members were Messrs. B. G. Hull, O. M. Lawrence and J. F. Frierson.

Woodlawn was selected as the next place for holding the annual meeting and in addition to naming Prof. Hull president, the association elected W. N. Puckett of this city, vice-president, and Prof. J. S. Vaughn, of Woodlawn, secretary and treasurer.

ALLIES ARMY WINS AND LOSES ALONG BALKAN FRONT

TAKES HEIGHTS FROM BULGARS, BUT WINGS ARE PRESSED BACKWARD.

Paris, Aug. 23.—The allies have captured a series of heights west of the Vardar River, on the Saloniki front, says a war office statement tonight. On both wings advance detachments have fallen back before the counter offensive of the Bulgarians in the battle continued on Aug. 21, on the whole front of the allied armies on the Saloniki line. In the center the British-French forces have violently bombarded Bulgarian positions on both sides of Lake Doiran, while our infantry established itself in the southern spurs of the Beles Mountains.

"West of the Vardar our troops have occupied a line of heights near Ljumnica and have maintained their positions at all points in spite of violent counter attacks by the enemy.

"The Serbian army has continued its progress in the mountainous zone between the Cerna and Moglenica Rivers. On the two wings the enemy, at the cost of very heavy losses, has succeeded in pushing back our advance detachments. On one end of the line the covering detachment, which attacked on Aug. 20 west of Sere, Bulgarian forces more than a division in strength, in order to delay their march, has fallen back on the Struma. All the passages of the river are solidly held by the allies. On the extreme left wing the Serbian army, after a very hot battle lasting two days, which was undertaken to retard the advance of the right wing of the Bulgarians, has retaken its principal defensive position in the neighborhood of Lake Ostrovo."

Athens, Aug. 22.—(Via London.)—An initial brigade of Russian troops has arrived at Saloniki to join the entente allies in the fighting in the Balkans.

The arrival of the Russians has created a profound impression here. Even the royalists who have consistently opposed participation in the war by Greece on the side of the allies seemed almost stunned by the news that Russian troops had arrived

GIRL TROOPERS ARE TRAINING FOR STRIKES



Photo by American Press Association.

Persons injured in riots incident to strikes will receive first aid treatment from "girl troopers" of the Women's League For Self Defense. In the accompanying illustration is shown William Russell of the Seventh regiment, New York, teaching the girl troopers the use of the wireless in a camp at Staten Island, New York.

HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE

GIST OF NEWS FROM OVER THE COUNTRY GIVEN IN A BRIEF FORM.

Despite the fact that the cost of living has gone up approximately 10 per cent since the outbreak of the European war, the cost of subsistence in the navy has decreased three quarters of a cent per man this year as compared with the fiscal year of 1914. A report handed to Secretary Daniels by Paymaster General McGowan, states that a net saving of about \$100,000 is indicated compared with the 1914 figure or a saving close to half a million dollars, if the cost of subsistence in the rest of the navy is taken into consideration. The fact that the men are better fed today than ever, even at the reduced cost, says the paymaster general, "is fully attested by reports from all sources.

A threatened renewal of New York's street car strike was averted Tuesday when the New York Railway Company and its employees reached an agreement through the efforts of Mayor Mitchell. Fourteen workers dismissed after conviction of disorderly conduct in the recent strike will be reinstated and other differences will be settled by arbitration.

Two thousand barbers in 800 shops in New York went on a strike Tuesday, according to Charles M. Fielder, vice-president of the International Barbers' Union of America. Before the end of the week, Fielder declared the majority of the 20,000 barbers in the greater city would join the strike. They demand an increase of \$1 a week in wages.

Sixteen War Department hospitals established along the Mexican border are now equipped to care for about 2,500 men and when completed will have a capacity of 4,500. The sanitary inspector of the Brownsville district reports conditions in the camps after the recent hurricane good and no danger of sickness.

Retail food prices in the united kingdom are about 23 per cent higher than a year ago.

Raises Crop of Sunflowers. Among the diversified farm activities being pursued in this section is the cultivation of sunflowers, and Dr. J. D. McCullough, a well known local physician, is among those engaged in the industry. Dr. McCullough has five acres of sunflowers planted on a plantation which he owns seven miles east of Columbus, and expects a yield of 5,000 pounds of seed, which will bring him a profit of \$30 per acre, or a total of \$150 for the entire crop.

Miss Corinne Stinson is attending a house party this week in Macon.

to take part in the campaign which under other conditions might have been taken by the Greek army.

The general feeling here is that the bringing of Russian troops has dispelled definitely the dream of a greater Greece, which was conceived a year and a half ago by the then Premier Venizelos, who carried Greece well on the way toward entrance in the war with the allies.

It is regarded as possible that the presence of Russian forces in Macedonia will effect a change in the attitude of Bulgaria.

In some quarters irritation is displayed at the recent foreign policy of the Greek government, which is said to have overlooked the interest of this nation.

NO SPECIAL LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO SELL "BEVO"

ATTORNEY-GENERAL SAYS BEVERAGE CAN BE DISPENSED BY DEALERS HERE.

Following the action of municipal authorities in informing local merchants that they could not continue the sale of "Bevo" and other beverages without special licenses, Mr. J. J. Price, who conducts a confectionery and soft drink establishment on South Market street, made a special trip to Jackson for the purpose of consulting Attorney-General Collins regarding the matter, and states that that official assures him "Bevo" can be sold without the payment of a special license.

There is a state law in Mississippi providing that all beverages which resemble beer in either taste or appearance can be sold without payment of a special tax of \$500 per annum, and as municipalities are empowered to collect one half the amount collected by the state the total tax on such beverages amounts to \$750.

In compliance with this law, City Tax Collector Donnell recently informed local merchants that if they continued to sell "Bevo" and other similar drinks they must pay the requisite tax, and Mr. Price, who, it is said dispenses large quantities of "Bevo" took the matter up in person with the attorney-general.

GOTTON MARKET TAKES ANOTHER UPWARD SPURT

INCREASED DEMAND CAUSES ADVANCE OF FROM 10 TO 20 POINTS IN PRICE.

Active demand for cotton caused the market to take another upward spurt yesterday, and prices advanced from 16 to 20 points, New York spots having again passed the 15-cent level, while quotations for future months recorded a corresponding gain.

Generally unfavorable weather reports were responsible for the advance in prices. Texas is suffering from a prolonged drought, and the expected rain failed to materialize, while the crops in various sections of the belt are suffering from weevils and other destructive agencies, and the deterioration comparatively steady for several weeks.

At the close of business yesterday afternoon New York spots were quoted at 15.10, October futures in New York at 14.92, New Orleans spots at 14.63 and October futures in New Orleans at 14.65. In the local market good middling was quoted at 14.10.

Many Negroes Leaving.

Negroes are leaving this section in large numbers, more than fifty having recently departed for St. Louis when the Mobile and Ohio railroad put on a cheap special rate to that city. Were it not for the short crops the exodus of negroes just when harvest time is approaching would place local farmers in an embarrassing position, but as there is little cotton or corn to gather the demand for labor is so small as to be almost negligible.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Stephenson have returned home after a delightful visit to relatives in Gainsville, Ala.

NO AGREEMENT REACHED BY JURY IN THE CLARK CASE

COUNCIL FOR DEFENDANT WILL ASK SECOND TRIAL BEFORE COURT ADJOURNS.

Meridian, Miss., Aug. 23.—The jury in the case of Jack Clarke, charged with the murder of Luther Sharp, at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon reported its inability to reach an agreement and was discharged by Judge Heidelberg. The jury stood seven for conviction and five for acquittal. The jury began its deliberations at 9:35 Saturday night and from the first to the last ballot the vote was the same. At noon today the members reported they could not agree on a verdict, but Judge Heidelberg sent them back for further deliberation. Four hours later when they asked to be heard they convinced Judge Heidelberg that it was impossible for them to reach an agreement and were dismissed.

Marion W. Kelly leading counsel for the defense, stated that they would ask for another trial of the case at this term of court and if time was not granted they would ask bond for their client, who has been in jail since the killing in April, having been denied bond by Justice Moody Price at the preliminary hearing.

Today a flaw was found in the indictment of Tom Childress, a white man charged with killing a negro woman in this city several months past. The indictment charged murder but failed to use the word "wilful." Judge Heidelberg reduced Childress' bond from \$1,000 to \$500 for his appearance before the next term of court, when the grand jury will again investigate his case. Childress has been in jail since the killing, not having been able to make bond.

Luther Hicks, indicted for murder, by agreement entered a plea of guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

Old Man Dies Suddenly.

Durant, Miss., Aug. 23.—W. F. Thomas, age 69, died suddenly in the Methodist church yesterday just at the conclusion of a prayer, which he had offered at the close of the morning services. Mr. Thomas was a native of Louisiana and was born at Baton Rouge. He has been in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad continuously for the past 33 years, and for the past 25 years years has served as engineer on a passenger train between Durant and Aberdeen. He enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the officials of the Illinois Central road and of a host of friends and relatives in this and adjoining states. He was a devout member of the Methodist Church, and was well known by a majority of the members of the North Mississippi Conference.

He is survived by one brother and one sister in Alabama, one sister in Florida, and one brother in Georgia, and by two daughters and one son. Mr. Thomas and his wife, who died just one month ago, besides rearing their own children, raised two orphan children.

Mrs. Henry Egger and little son, who have been visiting Mrs. Egger's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Stookey, left yesterday for her home in Texas. They were accompanied by Mrs. Stookey, who will visit them for several weeks.

Capt. J. A. Morton, the efficient chief of police, is taking his vacation, and during his absence the force is in charge of Capt. J. A. Hudson, who is acting chief and performing the duties of the position in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

CAR SHORTAGE IS GROWING SERIOUS

FACTORIES BEING HAMPERED BY INABILITY TO SECURE CARS.

SMALL HOPE FOR EARLY RELIEF

Railroad Officials Assert That Shortage is General and Other Sections are Suffering.

The shortage of freight cars, which has existed in this city for nearly a week past is becoming quite serious and has brought inconvenience to many local manufacturing industries. The Columbus Lumber Company was forced to shut down last Saturday, but is again in operation, while other plants are being prevented from making prompt shipments of their products on account of inability to secure cars.

Superintendent Figford, of the M. and O., was in Columbus last week and gave local shippers little encouragement, having declared that there was a shortage of cars throughout the country, and that shipments in every section are being hampered. Later, however, Messrs. W. S. Thompson, commercial agent of the Mobile and Ohio, and W. H. Hagan, of the Mobile Liners Company, were here endeavoring to straighten out the situation and it is hoped that their efforts will be effective. Mr. Thompson stated that General Manager Taylor had wired Master Mechanics in charge of all Mobile and Ohio shops to get out as many cars as is possible, and also stated that this road had recently placed an order for one thousand new freight cars, which would be ready for delivery in September.

Mr. Albert J. Loeb has returned from New York and other eastern cities, where he has been spending the past several weeks purchasing fall and winter stock for the firm of Simon Loeb and Brother, Inc.

PROF. M. C. VAUGHN SECURES LUCRATIVE JOB IN FLORIDA

RESIGNS PRINCIPALSHIP OF COUNTY SCHOOL TO GO TO PENINSULAR STATE.

Prof. M. C. Vaughn, who last year was principal of the Rural Hill High School, in the northeastern section of the county, has tendered his resignation in order to accept a lucrative position with the Florida State Plant Board, and will make his headquarters Board and will make his headquarters at Tallahassee.

Prof. Vaughn is a graduate of the Mississippi A. and M. College, where he made a special study of horticulture, and is in every way well qualified to fill the duties of his new position. His successor as principal of the Rural Hill High School has not yet been named.

Sykes Fined For Assault.

A. A. Sykes, whose wife conducts a boarding and lodging house at No. 218 North Market street, was before Mayor Gunter, on Monday, charged with having assaulted J. L. Craddock, a local newspaper man, and was fined \$5.00. Mr. Craddock formerly occupied lodgings at the Market street house, and the assault took place at a time when he was conversing with Mrs. Sykes regarding a lunch, which was sent to his room without having been ordered. Sykes, who was standing nearby, "batted in," and this led to a controversy which resulted in the assault.

At the trial of the case Mr. Craddock was ably represented by Judge Beverly Matthews, while Sykes was without counsel.

Wedding at Midnight.

Arriving in Columbus at 9:05 last Saturday night from Millport, Alabama, Mr. Garnett B. Carroll and Miss Sallie Mae Hodo, a well known couple from that place, decided to enter into the holy bonds of wedlock at 12 o'clock the same night. Circuit Clerk J. T. Stephenson was asked to prepare the license and Justice of the Peace R. M. Nickles was notified and the couple was quietly married by Mr. Nickles in the office of Mr. Stephenson. They returned Sunday to Millport to reside.

RECOUNT BY NASH SHOWS INCREASE

WORK OF FORMER SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION MOST EFFECTIVE.

1000 NAMES ARE ADDED TO ROLL

Result Means An Increase in The Amount of Money Received from Distribution.

Prof. S. M. Nash, who for 20 years was superintendent of education in this county, was recently named by the board of supervisors to make a supplementary enumeration of the educable children that are in the borders of the county, and his work has resulted in adding nearly 1,000 more names to the roll submitted by the tax assessor.

Prof. Nash, on account of his long service, and his familiarity with the conditions here, was able to locate quite a number of children who were overlooked by the assessor and his assistants in the original count. The fact that 1,000 additional names have been added to the roll is very gratifying to the supervisors, as the distribution of the state school fund is based on the number of educable children in each county, and this increased number will therefore add materially to Lowndes county's share of the fund.

Two Killed in Wreck.

Natchez, Miss., Aug. 23.—Loosened by the momentum of the train, a steel railway rail slipped from a flat-car on the line of the Baskin Lumber Company, near Baskin, La., and was caught between it and a car loaded with workmen this morning.

Propelled with terrific force, the rail swept through the air upon the men killed two and seriously injuring nine others.

The dead are: Will Dorsey, Elijah Hawkins. Fatally wounded: Will Hunter. Seriously injured: J. A. Taylor, (foreman); Amos Reed, Frank Lewis, Jim Flood, Phil Lloyd, Elijah Collins, Oscar Graham and Butler Robinson.

With the exception of Taylor, all are negroes.

The accident occurred about six miles from Baskin and a relief train was immediately sent out to bring in the dead and injured.

Conducting Sanitary Campaign.

Local health officials are conducting a vigorous sanitary campaign and officers are making a close inspection of every business house and resident in the city limits. The city recently adopted an ordinance requiring all householders, who are not connected with the sewerage system and who use surface toilets to have some properly screened so that flies and other insects cannot enter them. The ordinance went into effect several weeks ago, and officials have recently completed an inspection for the purpose of seeing that its provisions have been properly complied with.

Mayor Gunter and other local officials are determined to see that sanitary laws and regulations are properly observed, and several people, who have recently violated them, have been fined when haled in court.

Mrs. Atwell Williams spent Sunday at Bent Oak.

MEHAFFEY'S FLOUR MILL IS IN SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

PLANT KEPT RUNNING NIGHT AND DAY TO SUPPLY DEMANDS OF PATRONS.

J. E. MehaFFEY, who operates a flour mill at Steens, a small station about eight miles east of Columbus on the Southern Railway, is finding a good sale for his product, and is running his mill both day and night in order to supply the demand.

Wheat thrives in wet weather, and while other crops in this section have suffered from too much rain the wheat yield has been above the average. The grain is rapidly growing in favor among local farmers, and the acreage devoted to its cultivation will doubtless be increased next year.

Mr. MehaFFEY recently sent the Commercial a sack of flour and a sack of shorts for which we return appreciative thanks.