The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850. "Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's." THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June 1, 1866.

CONSOLIDATED AUG. 2, 1881. Sumter, S. C., Saturday, March 4, 1922 VOL. LIII. NO. 6

HARDING PLAYING POLITICS

Using Bonus Legislation For the Purpose of Putting Agriculture Bloc in a Hole

By Wallace Bassford.
(Special News Correspondent).

Washington, Feb. 28.—It is growing into a settled belief among those who watch and study the mystifying moves of big politics that the president's utterances on the bonus constitute a reflection of his desire to defeat the proposition and to let the blame rest on the farm bloc, which he looks upon as being the evil genius of his administration. It is believed that he would like to place these men in a hole from which they might never be able to extricate themselves. When he gave it out that he did not favor bonus legislation unless the money could be raised by a sales tax, he knew that the farm bloc is on record as strongly opposed to such a tax. Thus Harding "passes the buck" to those gentlemen and at the same time throws a sop to his Wall Street friends who want a sales tax to eventually take the place of taxes and surtaxes on incomes. In the same breath he tells the soldier he would like to see him get a bonus—but throws an obstacle in the way.

It is more than suspected that the president would like to see a lot of members of his own party fall outside the breastworks in the coming election fight. There are so many Republicans in the house and senate that he can't handle them, and if any fall he would prefer that they be members of the farm bloc in both house and senate. Of course it is well known that the Democrats are getting together a most militant organization for the purpose of causing an utter disappearance of this unwieldy condition. One of the big Republicans told a newspaper man the other day that the leaders of his party were hopeful that the majority of 169 in the house could be reduced to 30 or 40 without starting an avalanche that would wipe out the majority completely. They would like to have a congress that could be controlled by a few leaders, but it is a dangerous time to try the tactics thought of. As far as impartial observers can see at this time, the slaughter among Republicans of both house and senate will be great, but that the farm bloc will suffer the least. The Democrats say the Republicans are in for the worst trimming they have had in 30 years.

While addressing the League of Republican clubs in Washington last Saturday the president made a damaging display of his Toryism. Only those who read widely and keep close observation are aware of the extent of Harding's reactionary tendencies. Some who read this will recall that he was one of the few public men who condoned the action of a little group in the Baltimore convention of 1912 who withheld the nomination from Champ Clark after he had received a majority of votes and after he had shown in the primaries that he was the choice of the voters. Harding showed then that he believed in bosses handling and controlling conventions. He was always a bitter anti-Roosevelt man and always opposed Teddy, who believed in the people and the primary. He condoned the action of the convention that nominated Taft when everyone knew the masses of the party wanted Roosevelt. Students of politics understand that an infallible test of a public man's attitude on the great principles of government is found in the nominating method which he favors. Those who believe in progressive democracy condemn the old convention system with all its manipulation, trickery and fraud. President Harding takes his stand with those who still believe in the bossism of a few leaders, who dictate policies and candidates. In the address mentioned the president said: "I would rather trust the declaration of a party, expressing the conscience of its membership in a representative convention, looking forward to a successful appeal to the conscience and convictions of the country, than I would to the ephemeral whims of passing moments in public life. I wish I dared—I WILL say it—I CRAVE the return of intelligent conventions. I had rather have men appeal for popular support on the pronouncements of party conventions, utterng their convictions, than to have the appeal of the individual for his particular locality."

Of course the president had a reason for distaste for primaries—he submitted his candidacy to the people in the primaries and got turned down, but a few bosses, in a hotel room, made him president of the United States. But he has raised an issue that is full of dynamite. People remember Taft's remarks about "the whims of the majority" and "the gusty passions of the mob." Much water has gone over the wheel since then—a great war has been fought and won by the people of this country, but there are those who remember that those expressions did a vast deal in the work of putting Taft out of the White House. Millions still believe that our government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, and they don't propose to permanently delegate those powers to a few bosses in a hotel room some blocks from the convention hall.

The president's remarks are part and parcel of the plan of the Republican bosses to destroy the primary system, but the people are against them — and Harding's speech is a monkey wrench in the machinery, tossed there in a moment of exuberance.

TAX EXTENSION WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR

Gov. Cooper Bases His Objections to Measure on Constitutional Grounds

Columbia, Feb. 28.—Governor Cooper will probably tonight or tomorrow send to the general assembly a veto message on two acts which have passed both branches of the legslature. One of these will veto the tax-postponement act and the other will, if sent, which is considered certain, veto the act to enlarge the board of trustees of the University of South Carolina from seven to twenty-one members.

There is considerale interest in the outcome of these acts. The governor's opposition to the tax postponement measure is that it involves points that are in violation of the constitution. One of these is the provision that the postponement of tax paying shall not interfere with a man's voting in the 1922 elections. The governor says this would tie up the elections and would be wholly contrary to the plain provisions of the constitution.

Later—the governor sent to the legislature his veto of the tax postponement measure.

The governor opposes the trustee bill on the ground that a board of twenty-one members would be unwieldy; that it would be practically impossible to get a quorum for any meeting. Proponents of the act point out in answer to this that the board of twenty-one would delegate to an executive committee of about seven the routine business of the board. They also point out that twenty-one men of the state handling the affairs of the University would enlarge the circle of its supporters and tend to strengthen its hold on the people of the state.

BONUS STILL IN DOUBT

Washington, Feb. 28.—House ways and means committee Republicans spent three hours today trying to reconcile their differences over the soldiers' bonus but without success. After they had adjourned until tomorrow, Chariman Fordney announced that he had been "authorized to say that the committee has arrived at no conclusion."

It was understood that there was a general discussion of the whole question of finances, acrimonious at times, and that at the finish the situation was just where it was before the special sub-committee tentatively agreed upon a special tax program which subsequently was disapproved by President Harding.

The discussion today was reported to have revolved largely around the proposition to write into the bill some kind of a financiing provision that would meet the president's views at least half way. The sales tax suggested by the president and rejected by the special committee last week by an overwhelming vote was not pressed particularly, it was said, and the impression went out that some members had in mind a special tax program.

Hanford MacNider, national commander of the American legion, and John Thomas Taylor, vice chairman of the legion's legislative committee, discussed the bonus situation with President Harding at the White House today. They said afterwards that they were "perfectly satisfied" with the results of the conference and expressed confidence that there would be no delay in the enactment of the adjusted compensation legislation. They added that the president was "heart and soul with the legislation," and understood his position fully.

Tokio, March 1—The navy department orders to stop construction work on eight capital ships on four dock yards as the result of the Washington agreement will throw twenty-five thousand men out of employment, according to the Asahi. Some of the ships are nearly completed.

Milwaukee, March 1—Five men held up and robbed William Ormsby, the payroll clerk of the Palmolive company of nineteen thousand dollars today while alighting from a taxicab at the company's plant. The bandits escaped.

Raleigh, N. C., March 1—Governor Morrison has granted a thirty day respite to Wright House, an aged negro who is under death sentence for the murder of William Whitley, a Walstonburg merchant.

LEGISLATURE STRUGGLING WITH TAXES

Senate Has Hydro-Electric Tax Bill Before It For Second Time—House Voted Against McGhee Income Tax

Columbia, March 1.—The hydro-electric tax bill went on the senate calendar today for the second time during this session of the general assembly, thus putting it squarely up to the upper branch of the assembly to take a second thought and act again on a measure that is said to be aimed at bringing relief to the small taxpayer. The senate debated long and killed hard this bill once this session. The house passed it the second time, however, and sent it back to the senate. The bill was passed on third reading in the house Tuesday night without a dissenting voice.

There is said to have been a change of heart in the senate in regard to the tax reform measures, and it is likely that this bill will pass now. In addition to this bill there is one more yet to be voted on by the senate, the luxury tax bill. The senate is expected to kill this.

The house last night voted again also the Simonhoff bill to require men to present certificates of health before being granted marriage licenses. This bill was passed by the house last year, but was killed this year by the senate. It now goes to the senate for another trial.

The house Tuesday night voted non-concurrence in the McGhee income tax bill, and this measure has gone to free conference. The McGhee bill provided an income tax approximating twenty-five per cent of the federal tax. The original house bill, passed last year, provided a tax of about fifty per cent of the federal schedule.

The house voted concurrence in the movie tax bill, a measure to tax moving picture theaters according to a scale graduating with the population of the towns.

Representative Barnett introduced a resolution to require the state tax commission and the attorney general to look into the street car situation in Columbia, with a view to ascertaining whether or not the company is operating at a loss and to ascertain what authority the state has to require the company to operate its cars. The cars have been idle for nearly two weeks, due to a strike of car men, and the city council of Columbia claims that it has no authority, the company's franchise being granted by act of the state legislature.

Columbia, March 1.—The senate last night overrode Governor Cooper's veto of the tax postponement resolution. The vote against the governor was 32 to 3. The senate heard a long debate in which the governor was scored strong for his stand. The senators did not mince words to condemning the governor for his position. They disagreed the idea that the state's credit would be hurt. The governor vetoed the resolution on the ground that the postponement would cripple the state financially and injure its credit and also that the clause to allow citizens to vote regardless of delayed taxes would be in violation of the constitution and would ruin the elections this year.

Columbia, March 1.—By an overwhelming "aye" the house of representatives adopted and sent to the senate the concurrent resolution by Representative W. D. Barnett, of Columbia, to require the state tax commission and the attorney general to look into the matter of the financial status of the Columbia Railway, Gas & Electric company's street railway department and to ascertain what authority the legislature has in the present street car strike situation in Columbia.

LOW INTEREST RATE SECURED

Greenwood, Feb. 28.—For the first time in the history of Greenwood county, the annual county loan has been awarded to a bank outside of the city of Greenwood, the Bank of Ninety-Six having been the lowest bidder on the loan for the coming fiscal year. The Bank of Ninety-Six offered to loan the county $80,000 at one-forty-seventh of 1 per cent., or a total of $1,762. Fifty thousand of this amount was for school purposes and will enable schools of the county to run their normal terms, even with reduced collections of taxes, according to T. E. Dorn, county superintendent of education.

FORCED MAN TO DRINK POISON

Nashville, March 1.—J. E. Stout, Dr. John Vertress, Jess Savely, Tom and Ernest Byrd, charged with intent to commit murder in forcing W. J. Fulcher to drink laudanum were found guilty by a jury today. The sentence carries from three to twenty years.

RAILROAD POLICY IS CHANGED

New Federal Railroad Law Effective Today. Six Per Cent Guarantee is Withdrawn and No More Loans To Be Made

Washington, March 1—Two important changes in the government policy towards the nation's railroads became effective today. The section of the transportation act fixing a six per cent return which the roads are entitled to earn under the Interstate Commerce Commission regulations expired as did the period during which the roads under federal control during the war are entitled to ask the government for loans for aid to continue operations after the return to private management. The six per cent returns is superseded by the regulations requiring the Commerce Commission to make rates to give the roads a reasonable return on the value of property used in transportation.

$32,000,000 SUGGESTED FOR SUBSIDY

Pres. Harding Comes Out Strongly in Favor of Government Aid to Private Corporations

Washington, Feb. 28.—President Harding in addressing congress on the administration's plan for government aid to the American merchant marine, declared the influence of the United States in world's councils was sure to be measured by the standard of the nation's merchant marine. He urged the return of the merchant marine to private enterprise with the government's aid and estimated thirty-two million dollars annually. Authorization for induction of marine personnels into the naval reserve and the requirement that not over fifty per cent of immigrants be transported in foreign ships. He also advocated an amendment to the interstate commerce act to permit railways to own and operate steamships other than coastwise, and to allow preferential rail and steamship rates on through shipments on American vessels. He emphasized the importance of the merchant marine because of suspended naval construction.

COTTON FIRE AT HARTSVILLE

Hartsville, Feb. 28.—The warehouse of Rouse, Reynolds & Howe, containing approximately 1,000 bales of cotton, was discovered on fire at 9:30 o'clock tonight and indications late tonight are that the warehouse and its store of cotton will be totally destroyed.

The blaze has proven a stubborn one and was beyond control almost before the firemen had an opportunity to effectively combat it. The cotton had evidently been burning for some time before the fire was discovered and a rather high wind has multiplied the difficulties of the firemen in their effort to stem the tide.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The warehouse, which was originally constructed as a tobacco warehouse, had been converted into a cotton storehouse by the addition of a tin covering and was considered fairly safe. Workmen, leaving the building at 5 o'clock, saw no evidence of fire and no one is known to have been inside the warehouse between that time and 9:30 o'clock when the blaze was discovered.

Some of the cotton—all of which appears to be certain of destruction—was purchased at or near the top prices, while all of the 1,000 bales are at least partially covered by insurance.

N. Y. PRESSMEN STRIKE ENDED

New York, March 1—The controversy between the publishers of daily newspapers and the web pressmen's union over arbitration award of Federal Judge Martin T. Manton, ended today, Don C. Seitz, manager of the New York World, announced after a publishers' meeting.

AMERICANS USE TELEPHONES

New York, March 1—The American people exceeded all others in the use of modern appliances was demonstrated in the annual report of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company issued today. This country has two thirds of the world's telephones.

MARRIAGE OF ROYALTY IN LONDON

Princess Mary, Only Daughter of King George Becomes the Wife of Viscount Lascelles

London, Feb. 28.—Princess Mary, only daughter of King George and Queen Mary, was married today to Viscount Lascelles, with all the pomp and dignity befitting a royal wedding. The ceremony began in Westminster Abbey at 11:30 and soon thereafter the couple were pronounced man and wife, while the chimes of Westminster rang out the happy message, and vast crowds gave tumultuous greetings. The honeymoon special is prepared to leave for Shifnall, Shropshire, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Paris, March 1.—The allies are expected to refer the whole question of German reparations to the reparations commission for a decision after the meeting of the finance ministers here on March 9th.

JUDGE LANDIS TO PLAY BALL HEREAFTER

Famous Chicago Federal Judge Will Give All His Time to Big Leagues

Chicago, Feb. 28.—With a tear in his eye, but an unfaltering step, Kenesaw Mountain Landis today walked from the federal building a private citizen after 17 years as federal judge. Starting tomorrow, the famous jurist, who recently resigned, will devote his time to the position of baseball commissioner.

Judge Landis swung through the first part of his final day on the bench in characteristic fashion, disposing of nearly a dozen cases in the typically Landis manner which once caused a convicted bootlegger to refer to him as "that white haired hellcat in federal court," and a pardoned youth to term him the "whitest guy that ever talked to a fellow." He fined one man one cent for tax dodging because, he said, "You've tried to be square," and slapped a $5,000 fine on the man's partner because he "hadn't played fair."

In the afternoon the judge sat in his chamber amid the debris of his departure, watching his personal effects being carted away. Busts of Lincoln, of Gresham, former secretary of state under whom the judge served as secretary, pictures of famous persons, the propeller of the airplane his son Reed flew in the war, a clock from his boyhood Indiana home and dozens of other mementoes surrounded him during the informal reception of hundreds of visitors.

It was in this surrounding that the air of the government official was swept away and tears tricked down the cheeks not only of the judge but of several of his visitors. Persons from all stages of life came to clasp his hand. Bank presidents and society leaders mingled with laborers and occasionally a former prisoner with whom the judge had been lenient. The judge showed the greatest emotion when reporters presented him with a signed testimony wishing him luck, saying he was "taking the life of the joint away," and that they would always remember him as an "honest to God man and a judge with the right kind of backbone."

After reading it the judge swung his big chair around so the reporters could not see him and when he turned back five minutes later his cheeks and eyes glistened with tears. The last person to bid farewell to Judge Landis was Joe Buckner, bailiff in the judge's first court. Buckner left his bed, where he was confined with pneumonia, to journey through a snow storm for the farewell.

The judge took his own muffler, put it on Buckner and rushed him away.

Judge Landis will leave in about ten days for a tour of the Southern major league training camps he said.

SUB-COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED

Washington, March 1.—A special subcommittee to work out the soldier bonus plan which would not entail a heavy draft on the treasury within the next two years has been appointed by the house ways and means committee. The bill will probably be completed in a few days and immediately reported. It is expected a small demand for cash will be a feature.

New York, March 1—Twelve more stock brokers have been indicted by the supreme court in connection with the bucket shop investigation by the grand jury.

TOO MUCH POWER FOR COMMISSION

Senate Wants to Get Act From Governor Cooper—New Body Would Be Able to Regulate Every Public Utility in the State

Columbia, March 1.—A peculiar situation developed in the senate just before midnight tonight during the debate on the public service commission bill when it was discovered that the act providing for the new consolidated public service bill contained large supervisory and regulatory powers over every public utility operating in South Carolina, both as to rates and service.

The matter was referred to by Senator Watkins in his speech opposing the public service bill and he claimed that the measure will not be necessary in view of the amendment to the railroad commission bill.

Senators McGhee, Bonham and others claimed that they did not know of the amendment when they voted for concurrence in the house amendments, otherwise there would have been a free conference committee. After considerable discussion, during which Senator Bonham moved to adjourn debate on the public service bill until the other matter could be disposed of, it was decided that it will take a concurrent resolution to get the measure out of the hands of the governor, who has not signed it yet, for possible amendment in the senate. The bill was ratified as an act this morning.

The amendment over which a storm was raised was introduced in the house by W. D. Barnett of Richland, February 22, and adopted by the house. It reads:

"The railroad commission is hereby vested with power and jurisdiction to supervise and regulate the rates and service of every public utility in this state and to file such just and reasonable standards, classifications, regulations, practices and measurements of service to be furnished, imposed or observed and followed by every public utility in this state."

The bill providing for the powers and duties of the public service commission was debated throughout the whole session of the senate tonight. The bill was introduced and passed by the house last session. It seeks to give the public service commission authority to adjust and make equitable rates to be charged by power companies.

An amendment was offered to make the provisions applicable to the newly created railroad commission with which the public service commission has been combined under the act recently passed by the legislature. Senator Miller fostered the bill and made a strong appeal for it. Senators Pearce and Laney also spoke in favor of the bill. Senators Hart, McGhee, Young and Moise spoke in opposition to the bill. Senator McColl wanted an amendment inserted to exempt electric power plants which are owned and controlled by municipalities.

The senate tonight received the concurrent resolution from the house calling for an investigation of the street car strike in Columbia. On objection consideration went over until tomorrow.

Senator Wells tonight introduced a joint resolution providing for an extension of time for the payment of taxes in arrears.

The senate adjourned shortly after midnight without reaching a vote on the bill under debate.

HOME OF GEN. LEE BOUGHT

Cape May, N. J., March 1.—The former home of Gen. Robert E. Lee, commander of the Confederate army, was purchased today by Leonard H. Davis, president of the Progressive league of this city.

Mr. Davis announced that he would leave intact the war relics and antiques in the old mansion, but would restore parts of the building to conform with the architecture of the period in which it was built—more than 100 years ago. The property was purchased from the estate of the late Albert Hughes.

A FAMILY MIX-UP

Maysville, Ky., Mrach 2.—Two divorce suits are pending in the Mason county court here because Carl Kellum and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Addie Gallagher, ran off together, according to petitions filed by Mrs. Ina Gallagher Kellum, aged 18, against her husband and John Gallagher, aged 55, against his wife.

Washington, March 2—A complete re-organization of the naval reserve, abolishing the existing naval or marine corps and establishing a naval reserve as a component part of the navy, consisting of three classes, fleet, reserve, merchant marine, naval reserve and volunteer national reserve, is proposed in the tentative bill prepared by the navy department.

TAXES ARE POSTPONED TO JUNE 1ST

House Joins the Senate in Overriding Gov. Cooper's Veto—Extension to June 1st With a Heavy Penalty

Columbia, March 2.—The house of representatives voted, as did the senate, to override the veto of the governor on the resolution to postpone the payment of taxes, and yet the postponement of taxes is not expected to injure the state's financial condition to any great extent, due to the heavy penalties imposed.

The vote of the house to override the governor's veto was 79 to 9. The vote was debated at some length in the house Wednesday night. Representatives Buckingham, Walling, Evans and Bryson spoke against the veto, alleging that the state's credit would not be ruined by the resolution, and that the times demanded this relief to the taxpayers.

The penalties imposed by the resolution as it passed both branches of the legislature and becomes law, are as follows:

Taxes paid after March 1, penalty 3 per cent.

Taxes paid after April 1, penalty 5 per cent.

Taxes paid after May 1, penalty 6 per cent.

Taxes paid after June 1, penalty 8 per cent.

Executions are to be issued for all taxes paid after June 1, with execution cost fixed at $1, the executions to be held by the sheriff till September 1. The $1 execution cost means that for a man whose tax is small the penalty will be much heavier than the rate of interest. For instance, the penalties paid on $100 of taxes paid after June 1 will be $9 or 9 per cent.

The Simonhoff Bill.

The house of representatives, after passing to third reading Tuesday night, the Simonhoff bill to require medical certificates of health as requisite for securing marriage licenses, Wednesday night voted to recommit it, without any debate which would mean death to it, but after an appeal by Mr. Simonhoff for a careful consideration of the measure, the house refused to put the clincher on the action to recommit, leaving the bill with a still further chance at life. An excitable argument between Messrs. Simonhoff and O'Rouke, of the Charleston delegation, in which Mr. Simonhoff declared that he was a labor candidate and in which Mr. O'Rurke stated that he was "not the product of labor," was cut short by the speaker, who brought the house to laughter when he declared that the wanted to prevent another split in the Charleston delegation.

STRANGE CASE IN GEORGIA

Tuscaloosa, Ala., Feb. 28.—The state of Georgia today, through Solicitor General E. S. Taylor of Rome, began its fight to extradite George Nichols, who is alleged to be Hiram Casey Nettles, held here in connection with the slaying of Peter Mooney in Rome, Ga., 50 years ago.

Nichols through his attorney stoutly denied that he is Nettles, declaring that he had never gone under any name except his own, which is Nichols.

Horace C. Alford, Birmingham attorney, empowered by Solicitor General Taylor to represent the state in the case, declared he would produce witnesses from Georgia to substantiate the allegation of Alabama and Georgia witnesses that Nichols and Nettles are the same person.

It is understood that Nichols is prepared to introduce an array of witnesses in an effort to substantiate his claim that he is not the man wanted in Rome.

Alford said he was prepared to show that the name Nichols was assumed soon after the Rome killing.

The alleged identification of Nichols as Nettles came about through members of the man's family, according to George W. Favors, Birmingham attorney, who signed the warrant for Nichols' arrest. The attorney said that Nichols and his second wife were divorced at Tuscaloosa about a year ago. This proceeding led to the inquiry that resulted in Nichols' arrest, Mr. Favors declared. Among persons who gave information concerning the history of the Rome case was Nichols' 18 year old son, Hiram Nichols, a student at the Alabama Boys' Industrial school at East Lake, according to the attorney. One other son, two daughters and the divorced wife live in Birmingham.

Nichols has lived here for 25 years and is said to be 75 years of age.

MONUMENTS IN EUROPE

Washington, March 2.—The erection of nine monuments in Europe to mark places of special interest in the service of the A. E. F. is contemplated in the memorial plans of the war department.

MYSTERY IS PROBABLY SOLVED

Six Drug Peddlers Are Caught in Raid on a Los Angeles House—Housekeeper Says They Killed Movie Man

Los Angeles, Feb. 28.—The mystery of the murder of William Desmond Taylor, film director, "is solved if the story told by Mrs. John Rupp in connection with the arrest here today of six drug peddlers is correct," tonight declared Detective Sergt. Herman Cline, one of the police squad assigned to the case.

When Sergt. Cline, head of the police homicide squad, made this statement Mrs. Rupp, who told the police she had "kept house" for the men, had been rigidly questioned by two detectives of the district attorney's office. Officers said they would check up every detail of her statement.

Another witness, new in the case, and whose exact connection with it, and whose name was not made public officially, was taken before District Attorney Woolwine, to whom he was said to have told a "very important story." This witness is called "Frenchy George" by the detectives, who decline further information.

"French George's" story, however, was believed to relate to the arrests of the six men, who were accused of having sold drugs and liquor to motion picture actors and actresses and others in the Hollywood district.

The six men in custody were caught in a raid at Mrs. Rupp's home. They gave their names as William East, thirty-six; Walter Kirby, twenty-three; John Herkey, twenty-five; Ray Lynch, twenty-six; George Calvert, twenty-five, and Harry Amorheim, twenty-seven. Police were holding them incommuncado tonight.

According to the police, Mrs. Rupp directly charged two of the men with the murder of Taylor. The officers quoted her as saying Kirby and Calvert had made threats against Taylor in her house, asserting that the director had "injured their business." She declared they showed nervousness the night of February 1, when Taylor was murdered; were away from her home for a time early that night, and, returning "stayed up all night."

The police stated Kirby and Calvert were no strangers to them.

Shortly before Taylor was slain, according to the police re-tatement of Mrs. Rupp's story, three of the six men returned to her home, and told her:

"He double-crossed us; wouldn't pay for the booze we brought him. We'll get the ——. We're going to kill him."

The name of the director was not spoken, however, it was stated. Mrs. Rupp said she dismissed the threat from her mind until the day after the murder. Then, she said, while she and the two men were at dinner, she suddenly cried out to one of them:

"You are the man who killed Taylor."

"He turned perfectly white and sagged in his chair," Mrs. Rupp was quoted. "Then he said: 'Good God, don't say that again.' Don't ever mention that again."

"I never did," Mrs. Rupp was said to have continued, "but during the next two weeks, one man would frequently come running into the house and hide in his room. Once he said to me, 'The bulls are after me. Help me hide.'"

Mrs. Rupp was said to have given the police the name of an alleged bootlegger from whom the six men were reported to have obtained the liquor they were charged with having sold. The officers were said to be searching for this man.

The arrests today revived the theory brought forward several times and as often said to have been discarded, that Taylor was slain because of his alleged activities against a narcotic ring. It was even declared that the officers had practically proved the director once engaged in a physical encounter with a drug peddler he caught negotiating with an actress friend.

A detective attached to the district attorney's office said officers would pay another visit to Mabel Normand, film actress, who is recovering from what her physicians announced as a severe attack of influenza, and nervous breakdown.

Los Angeles, March 1.—Further questioning of the six alleged drug peddlers and bootleggers as to their knowledge of the Taylor murder is planned today by the police and district attorney's office. The arrest followed a quarrel between one of them and their housekeeper, Mrs. John Rupp.

FOUR DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

Nashville, March 1.—Charles Petree, Tom Christmas, Otto Stevens and John McClure were electrocuted in the state prison today for the murder of George Lewis, at Knoxville, May 30th, last. The men met death with a prayer on their lips, except Petree, and all going to the chair calmly.