

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE

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Camden, S. C., Friday, Aug. 31, 1923.

Immediate recognition of the Mexican government was recommended to President Coolidge Tuesday by Commissioner Charles Beecher Warren and John Barton Payne. Prior to going to the White House the commissioners delivered their report to Secretary of State Hughes. This report consisted of a voluminous document containing the approved minutes of all meetings held by the recognition commissioners. After the two conferences, it was said at the White House that President Coolidge and Secretary Hughes were highly gratified over the outcome of the negotiations. Upon leaving the secretary of state's office, both commissioners expressed their entire satisfaction with the results of their missions. Commissioner Warren said: "The Mexican government has expressed itself as satisfied with the result of the conference. We ourselves are satisfied, and we hope this government will be satisfied."

Much interest was created in Sumter when an announcement was made by the local board of examiners that there would be no examination on August 21, as had previously been announced, for applicants for appointment as postmaster. It is not known here why the examination was called off, and interest in the next step which will be taken by the department is great. It has been currently reported on the streets that the appointment would be secured by Maj. J. W. Bradford, at present acting postmaster, but this is only hearsay, and is only given as rumor. It is further rumored that an offer of an appointment was made to a local negro, but he declined the offer. These offers, the rumor has it, were made by one who was representing Joseph W. Tolbert, and acting as a go-between.

The French reparations note, though courteous in tone, according to London dispatch, does not reveal that any appreciable progress has been made toward a settlement of pending disputes or problems. Premier Poincare maintains that the invasion of the Ruhr is not the cause of Germany's financial plight which, he insists, is occasioned by Germany's determination not to pay. He rejects the plan for an international commission to inquire into Germany's capacity to pay and refuses to enter any negotiations with Germany until passive resistance ceases in the Ruhr. He declares France will not evacuate the Ruhr until the last gold mark is paid on the reparations account. He concludes by saying that the debts of France to America and Britain are in a different category, both from the point of view of justice and morality, from those of Germany and cannot be paid until Germany reimburses France.

The women of Charleston have presented Governor McLeod with a silver service in appreciation of their appointment of his action in establishing a commission under which a fair share of the government's income would be distributed to the people of the city. This movement will be accepted by the city as evidence of their appreciation of the State's action in the matter.

Independent gasoline dealers of South Dakota, on Friday reduced the price of gas to 15-1-2 cents a gallon, to meet the cut of the Standard Oil Company.

Games of chance are forbidden by law, and yet pedestrians must cross the streets occasionally, says the Carolina Citizen.

Tributes Must Be Paid For. For a long while it has been the policy of The Chronicle not to charge for tributes of respect or long obituaries, but we have had so much demand upon our space for such notices in the past few weeks that we are forced to make a charge of ten cents a line for all notices of obituaries or tributes of respect. Count six ordinary words to a line and include the amount when mailing an obituary or memorial to this paper, otherwise it will not be published, and the manuscript will not be returned unless necessary postage is included to pay return charges.

We will continue to publish cards of thanks or church notices where they are not over six or seven lines in length, provided they are written with pencil or ink on one side of the paper and not written with a nail.

Marks Took a Slump. Bamberg Herald: When German marks first became so cheap a citizen of Bamberg purchased 400,000 marks of German currency, paying therefor about \$2,100. He still owns the marks and receives good interest on the investment, which is on deposit in a German bank—but the interest also is in German marks—hence of not much value to the investor. A recent quotation on German marks gave the rate of exchange at 2,000,000 marks for one American dollar. According to this rate of exchange, the Bamberg investor in marks is the proud possessor of the munificent sum of 20 cents.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Items of Interest Gathered From Many Sources.

The newest of Japan's submarines, just returned from a short trip, sunk at the dock at Kobe, Japan, Tuesday. The loss of life is reported at 85, the captain, chief officers and nine others escaping.

The U. S. S. Gopher, a gunboat, built of wood, and obsolete, was sunk in the Gulf of St. Lawrence Tuesday during a gale. No lives are reported lost.

New York's police force and hundreds of newspaper reporters and others are searching for the whereabouts of Lillian McKenzie, three months old, kidnapped Monday. The police believe that the baby was kidnapped by a demented mother to satisfy the mother-craving of her diseased mind.

Captain Fred Walters, 68, internationally known as the "blue man" exhibited for years by P. T. Barnum and Buffalo Bill, died in a New York hospital Monday. An autopsy showed that all his internal organs were blue as well as his skin. Surgeons say that this condition was caused by inhaling nitrate of silver fumes many years when Walters was working in a mine in Australia.

Five masked men held up and looted the express and mail car of a Missouri, Kansas and Texas train near Okesa, Okla., early Tuesday morning. The losses are not known.

Albert Mitchell, 80 years old, surrendered to the police at Northeast, Md., Tuesday and confessed that he had stolen \$5,000 from a bank at Hlave de Grace, thirty-five years ago, while the driver of an express wagon. Instead of taking the money to the bank he ran away with it.

President Coolidge formally moved into the White House on last Tuesday.

Wade H. Ballow, Pickens county convict, sent to the penitentiary to serve six years for manslaughter, made his escape from that institution Monday night. This is his second escape, having gotten away on January 12, last, only to be captured, later.

Flying scholarships for men and women in the 1,000 largest cities of the country have been offered by the National Aeronautic Association to stimulate interest in aeronautics. One scholarship will be awarded for each city in proportion of the city's population. It must be between years of age and must be physically able to fly.

Seek to Ease Rules on Night Life in London

London—England needs a new law regulating public houses and places of entertainment, say the owners of London's hotels and dance halls, who have banded together to obtain less stringent laws in the matter of closing their places. The present law, which is adhered to vigorously by the authorities, was passed in the reign of George II in 1751, and requires that the dance places of all classes close at the stroke of midnight. The hotel and cafe proprietors will ask the London county council to draw up a new law to be presented to parliament, and they have obtained the backing of the "Brighter London" movement committee which is seeking to make London a rival of gay Paris.

Four persons were killed, two of them women, when a speeding automobile hit a telegraph pole near Phillipsburg, N. J., Thursday night. Four other persons in the car escaped with minor injuries.

Fifteen thousand tons of Welsh coal left Wales last week on its way to Boston, the first of a number of such shipments in contemplation of the expected coal strike.

It is announced that divers recovered practically all of the gold bullion on board the Laurentic when that vessel was sunk by a German submarine off the Irish coast during the war, amounting to several millions of dollars. In addition to the gold some \$5,000,000 worth of silver bullion has also been salvaged.

Three confessed members of the Ku Klux Klan are facing prison sentences of not less than two years each as the result of Governor Walton's fight against mob whippings in Oklahoma.

Six persons were killed and a seventh was probably fatally injured when their automobile was struck by an Erie railroad train near Binghamton, N. Y., last Sunday.

Louis Allen, formerly of Chester, was killed at Halthorpe, Md., Sunday morning while trying to force his way into a room occupied by James M. Haynes and his wife. The story is that when Allen knocked at the door, Haynes challenged and wounded him from the inside. Allen broke the door down and Haynes shot him six times. The facts and circumstances are not exactly clear. It was suggested by the police that Allen had gone to the apartment looking for a girl who had previously moved away, and that the apartment had been subsequently occupied by the Haynes's. Hearing a man's voice answer his efforts to get in, he became enraged and broke in. Mrs. Haynes stated to the police that she did not know Allen. Haynes was held without bail for the inquest, which is to be held tomorrow. The full facts are not yet clear.

Home Mark Twain Loved Is Destroyed by Fire

Redding, Conn.—Stormfield, the home of Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) in the closing years of his life, a picturesque villa on a ridge in this town, was burned. The property was bought last December by Mrs. Margaret E. Givens of New York.

In this home Mark Twain spent his last years, and as he had expressed it, experienced some of the deepest sorrows of his life, as well as some of his happiest days. Here his younger daughter, Janet, met a tragic death, and here there was a burglary which aroused widespread interest.

Mr. Clemens lay ill in Stormfield for a long time, and from it his body was borne to its last resting place. The house contained 18 rooms, with five bathrooms and a large loggia. It had its own lighting plant, water supply from springs and ice house.

Mrs. Givens, her daughter Thelma, and her son, Eben, were in the house when Eben discovered the fire in the laundry on the main floor. All were obliged to leave in their night garments. Neighbors saved some of the furnishings.

The property was originally offered at \$175,000 and was insured. The fire is thought to have started from spontaneous combustion of painting materials in the laundry.

300,000 Greek Peasants to Get Seized Farms

New York.—It is estimated that in all some 3,000,000 acres will be taken from owners and given to peasants by Greece under the new laws. The value of this land is said to be between \$22,000,000 and \$38,000,000.

The number of peasants to be benefited is estimated at 300,000, a large number in a country with a population of 5,000,000. The number of estates to be expropriated is about 1,200. Some of these embrace whole villages.

Owners who are thus seeing their land taken from them are for the most part wealthy persons, though a few are monasteries and municipalities, and some of the land is owned by the national government. Many monasteries in Greece have clung tenaciously to large estates from the middle ages. Among the owners are many wealthy and influential Greeks. They have done all they could to prevent the expropriation.

Advertisement for Camden Clothing Company. Features the slogan 'GET READY FOR SCHOOL' and 'JUST TWO MORE WEEKS BEFORE SCHOOL OPENS'. Includes an illustration of a boy in a suit and text describing the quality of their wool suits.

A LETTER AND REPLY.

From Road Superintendent and Road Foreman of County.

(Advertisement.) Bethune, S. C., Aug. 11, 1923. Mr. I. B. Alexander, Camden, S. C.

Dear Mr. Alexander: Since seeing you this morning I have been informed that during yesterday or the day before while you were at work on the fill at Beaver Creek, you allowed your men at work there to cover up some property which belongs to Kershaw County, such as hammers and a quantity of nails in a keg, stating that it was not your place to move them. If this be true, this is sufficient to prove to me that you do not have the interest of Kershaw County at heart as you should have, and I now feel it my duty to inform you that you are discharged.

Yours very truly, D. T. Yarbrough.

Camden, S. C., Aug. 25, 1923.

Mr. D. T. Yarbrough, Road Superintendent of Kershaw County, Bethune, S. C.

Dear Sir: The writer would have replied to your letter of discharge, of date the 11th, inst., sooner, but for the fact that I went to another position directly after receiving it and have not had the time.

I was not at all disconcerted at your peremptory action, but I cannot allow your unwarranted and unjust accusations to go unanswered. I have been engaged in work for others for the past twenty-five years and this is the first time that I have ever had my loyalty to my employer questioned. I can furnish references from all over South Carolina and parts of other States and I assure you that I am not at all dependent upon you or upon any position that you may control.

Now, getting down to the reasons given for your letter.

The hammer you mentioned is a twenty-four hundred pound hammer borrowed by the county. I understand, from the Hermitage Cotton Mill, and used in driving piling, while the nails you mentioned are not nails at all but a keg of bolts belonging to a pile driver which had been abandoned

and left lying by the side of the fill in the water, along with valuable fixtures, all of this having been done, along with the leaving of the hammer in the building of the bridge, with which as you know I had nothing to do, and which was done before I ever began constructing the fill.

The hammer was left in the pathway of the fill and I had not sufficient force to move it. You had told me that in my work I should follow the instructions of Mr. Jones, one of the County Commissioners and on two occasions I called his attention to the hammer, and on each occasion he instructed me to cover it up when I reached it. I did this, being careful to turn it around and leaving it so that it could be as easily removed as it could have been before. As to the bolts, or nails, as you call them, they were not covered up but removed and placed on a pile of lumber nearby.

I am constrained to believe that the information you received was used by you as an excuse, and that your letter was written in a spirit of pique for what I told you when you informed me that (Saturday) morning that after I had finished my work there my services would no longer be required. I informed you that it was my belief that after eighteen months some one else would be in your place and that I could get the job back if I wanted it. I have been working for the county for the past eighteen months, and I know that if J. D. Gregory or G. W. Turner had occupied your position at the time the hammer, the pile driver and the bolts left there, they would have been removed and put in their proper place. Without the force or equipment to move this hammer and with the instructions from my superior no fair minded man can blame me.

I dislike to write such a lengthy letter, but after a quarter of a century of honest and earnest endeavor to serve my superiors faithfully and well I am not going to stand for aspersions from you or any one else.

In conclusion, this discharge came without warning and without cause after the month's work I had been begun and I feel it my right and shall expect my salary in full for the month of August for which claim will be duly filed.

I am giving a copy of this letter, along with your letter to the press,

for publication. I don't want to get into any newspaper controversy, but I don't know what misconstruction might have been put on your action and I am determined that matters shall appear in their true light to the taxpayers of Kershaw County, to whom I have felt myself answerable since I have been in their employ. Yours truly, I. B. Alexander.

In a race across the Atlantic last week the Leviathan reached Southampton about twelve hours ahead of the Olympic. The two ships left New York about the same time on the previous Saturday, reaching the English port Thursday afternoon and night. Kate D. Wiggin, famous American novelist and pioneer kindergarten teacher, died in Harrow, England, last Thursday, after an extended illness.

Broken Rib Kills Man. Mobile, Ala., Aug. 26.—Matthew Keith, electrical engineer, met death in a peculiar manner today. He was a passenger in a taxicab that went into a hole on a country road and was thrown up against the front seat. He rolled out of the cab exclaiming that he was dying. He was rushed to a hospital, but died as the ambulance passed through the gate of the institution. Physicians reported that a broken rib penetrated his lungs.

NOTICE. We the undersigned forbid anyone hunting fox, or trespassing in any way on our lands in Kershaw County, South Carolina. C. A. Johnson, H. T. Mangum, J. W. Joyner, W. B. Joyner, George Dunham, J. E. Mangum, J. S. Munn, W. B. Mangum, C. O. Stogner, Mrs. Alice Horton, R. B. Baker, A. J. Smith, Alex. Brown. Aug. 28, 1923.

Advertisement for the New Hupmobile Touring Car. Includes an illustration of the car and text stating 'NOW SOLD IN CAMDEN AND KERSHAW COUNTY BY GEORGE T. LITTLE'.