

NEGROES STAGE DARING ATTEMPT

To Escape From State Penitentiary in Columbia

ONE NEGRO FROM SUMTER COUNTY

Prisoners Found After Long Search Under Floor of Building

Two negro prisoners at the state penitentiary gave officers of that institution a thrilling episode of prison life when they "hid out" from Saturday afternoon until Sunday afternoon. This ruse by prisoners is an old one and is frequently met with by penitentiary officials, but the two Saturday had outwitted the officers.

Late Saturday afternoon a negro woman came to the penitentiary to see Walsh Smith who is being held for the murder of Magistrate Wiggins at Elmore. Smith was sent for, but could not be located. Captain Day, head of the guard force, then called the roll and instituted a close search for the negro. During the roll call it was also discovered that Adam Griffin, who is being held for the murder of Archie Cox, a prison guard on the state farm in Sumter county, was also absent. After this discovery every avenue of escape was closely guarded and officers began a complete search for the two negroes.

Often prisoners hide out in the grounds in the afternoon with the hope of sealing the walls at night, and penitentiary officials were confident that Griffin and Smith had repeated this trick. The negroes had been at work in the chair factory, and although Captain Day and Colonel Sanders believed they were somewhere in the building, no trace could be found of the missing men until early Sunday morning. Believing the negroes were in the building, Captain Day stationed himself there and waited until late in the night when he heard the negroes mumbering under the floor of the factory.

After having discovered the men under the floor it took the officials nearly half a day to get them out. Griffin and Smith had pulled up planks in the floor and gotten under, a feat that the officials had thought impossible, as they had always considered the floor of the building to be right on the ground. After getting under the floor the men had covered up their escape well and it was only by their talking did Captain Day get wind of their whereabouts.

Having located the negroes, the officials set about to get them out. This proved rather hard, as the building is a long one and every time the officers would get through the flooring at one place they would find that the prisoners had gone to another, many feet away. The rendezvous of the negroes was extremely dark and the officers were forced to extend electric cords under the floor before they could locate the men. After getting light under the floor some time elapsed before the negroes were brought forth.

After combined efforts on the part of several guards and a trusty, the men were brought out and lodged in their cells, where they will find a hard time sleeping. The negroes had made preparations for a long stay under the floor as they had several large cakes, a gross of sardines and other foodstuffs with them.

The attempted escape gave prison officials considerable worry. Col. A. K. Sanders, superintendent, and Captain Day were both continually on the job from the minute of the missing of the prisoners until they were found Sunday. Captain Day put in the whole of Saturday night watching for the men. Colonel Sanders said yesterday that LeRoy Michal, a life termer from Charleston, aided the guards materially in getting the negroes. Michal has often helped the officers and Saturday night he did splendid work, Colonel Sanders said yesterday.

Colonel Sanders and Captain Day were disturbed over the attempt to escape very much as the two negroes are being held for murder. It was only by their untiring efforts that the prisoners were found. Walsh Smith was a resident of Sumter county.

Sumter Defeats Summerton Pill Slingers

Knock the Noted Hock Bland Out of the Box and Pile Up Score

Sumter defeated the fast Summerton team 7-0 at Summerton yesterday in a pretty game of ball. Ladestro, pitching for Sumter put up a good game allowing only three hits and striking out 14 men. The feature of the game was the hitting of the entire Sumter team, knocking the great Hock Bland out of the box. Martin substituted for Bland was unable to check the onslaught of the Sumter artillery. Sumter plays Heath Springs three games at the Fair Grounds beginning Wednesday afternoon. A good crowd of fans should be on hand for the local team is hitting a great stride these days.

Gore Loses Out

St. Louis, Aug. 4.—Unofficial newspaper returns show that Gore is still far behind Ferris in the democratic nomination for senator from Oklahoma. Davis, republican is leading Senator Spencer in Missouri for re-nomination and Long, democrat, has a small lead for Senator Allen, of Kansas, is leading for the republican gubernatorial nomination by a safe majority. Atkinson, republican, and Hyde, democrat, are far ahead for governor from Missouri, both are dry.

GERMAN SHIPS IN FIGHTING

Several Vessels Surrendered Have Seen Service

WARSHIPS OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION

Will Send Them to Other Ports to Let the People See Them

Washington, August 3.—Four of the five German warships allocated to the United States for experimental purposes were in the thick of the fighting at the battle of Jutland, according to naval intelligence records here. The vessels are due at New York from Brest, France, this week and under a clause of the peace treaty they must be destroyed within one year after their arrival.

The light cruiser Frankfort, now a wreck in machinery and being towed to the United States by the transport Hancock was the first ship in the German battle line when it collided with the British grand fleet, while the 22,000 ton dreadnaught Ostfriesland was the ninth ship in the line, immediately in the rear of the flagship of the German commander in chief, Admiral Scheer.

Of the three destroyers, all of which are being towed over as a result of their submergence with the German fleet at Scapa Flow, the G-102 and the V-43 were in the forefront of the fighting throughout the Jutland engagement.

Leading a division of four scout cruisers that bore the brunt of the British fire at the opening of the engagement, the Frankfort, flagship of Rear Admiral Brodieker, was hit four times, but with a small calibre shell in each instance and stayed in the fight to the finish. The third cruiser behind her was sunk at the opening of the engagement. The Frankfort, which has a speed of 28 knots, is believed to have participated also in the British coast.

Although she was well up in line and her 12-inch guns worked throughout contact with the British fleet, the dreadnaught Ostfriesland, flagship of Vice Admiral Schmidt, commanding battle squadron No. 1, escaped without a major blow, so far as naval records here disclose, but was damaged later by hitting a mine during the withdrawal to Wilhelmshaven.

Of the two destroyers, the G-102 was with the scouting forces, close to the Frankfort, at the opening of the battle. She took part in the destroyer attack on the British battle cruiser divisions at 4:30 p. m., and later in the general engagement with British destroyers sent out to cover the battle cruisers. The V-43 also was in the thick of the fight and was included in the flotilla that launched the destroyer attack under cover of which the German fleet began its withdrawal. The third destroyer in the group, the S-122, is believed to have been completed at the close of the war.

The warships will be opened to public inspection shortly after their arrival at New York and the Navy Department now is considering plans to send them to other ports. As only the Ostfriesland is able to proceed under her own power, however, she may be the only one of the group sent on an exhibition tour. The three destroyers are scheduled to go to Norfolk in two weeks.

During the trans-Atlantic trip Captain Julius F. Hellweg, United States Navy, will be in charge of the fleet.

Japan Replies

Will Carry Out Arrangements Already Made

Tokio, August 3.—Japan in the forthcoming reply to the United States, will amplify recent statements to the world powers regarding the occupation of certain points in the Saghalien district. It is understood here that there is no indication that Japan will refrain from carrying out the military arrangements already made, but will tell the United States that the occupation is only temporary.

Dr. Edmunds Pleases Olanta Audience

Olanta, August 3.—This community had the delightful privilege yesterday afternoon of hearing at the Methodist church Dr. S. H. Edmunds, superintendent of Sumter city public schools, deliver a most engaging address. A representative audience greeted the learned speaker as he briefly, but with distinctly forceful thought, discoursed upon certain baneful conditions that follow in the wake of the great war, namely, lowering the standard of man's ideal of womanhood, profanity, gambling, and an extravagant materialism. Deploing the fact that there is no reign of idealism, he insisted that the people may recover in part their lost inheritance herein by always putting first things first. Thrilling tributes were paid Woodrow Wilson and Robert Edward Lee.

Educational Conference

Chattanooga, Aug. 4.—Five hundred educators, business and professional men are attending the educational conference at Monteagle to gather practical examples of solutions to Southern school problems.

Ty Cobb Will Take Stump For Cox

New York, Aug. 4.—Senator Harrison of Mississippi announced today that he proposed to take Ty Cobb, the baseball player, on a swing around the circle to speak for Cox and Roosevelt.

THRIFT IS MOTTO FOR CAMPAIGNS

Managers Will Be Careful Of Expenditures

REED SAYS ECONOMY WILL BE ENFORCED

Will Not Go So Far As To Eliminate Usual Trumpet Blare

Chicago, August 1.—Presidential campaigns this year are going to be run on a thrif basis, in the opinion of several members of the Senate committee which has been investigating pre-convention expenditures of the various candidates who sought nomination by one or the other of the major parties.

Senators Kenyon (Rep.) of Iowa, Reed (Dem.) of Missouri and Spencer (Rep.) of Missouri all declare that the campaigns this year will be conducted with more care and consideration for the financial end than ever before.

The chairman of the Senate investigating committee, Mr. Kenyon, said the pre-convention disclosures made through the committee, and the fact that it was instructed by congress also to investigate presidential campaigns will make the political managers careful of their expenditures and no disbursement which might cause unfavorable comment, even from opponents, will be made.

"I don't mean to say that anyone is afraid of the committee," said Senator Kenyon, "but the politicians realize that their expenditures are going to be scrutinized carefully and consequently they are going to cut out many of the usual items."

Senator Reed said that economy would be forced on the political directors because they would not have so many large subscriptions as heretofore.

"Big business does not like to be publicly mixed in politics and many of the customary large subscriptions will be cut down," he said.

Senator Spencer, also expressed belief that there would be considerable thrif in the campaigns but declared it would never go so far "as to eliminate the usual trumpet blare."

"There is a question, however, that the campaigns this year are going to be handled on a very careful financial basis," he said.

Provisional Soviet Formed For Poland

Bolsheviks Are Pounding Lines of Enemy to Gain Warsaw

London, August 3.—A provisional soviet has been formed in the parts of Poland, occupied by the soviet troops according to a Moscow wireless.

Warsaw, August 3.—Over a front of 120 miles the Polish armies are being pounded to pieces before the rush of the Bolshevik hordes which are making a desperate effort to capture Warsaw before the conclusion of the armistice. Great masses of reinforcements have been flung against the Polish breastworks defending Best-Litovisk, the last great fortress defending Warsaw from the east and it has apparently fallen.

The American consul has been swamped by Americans and others requesting passports.

London, August 3.—The Polish armistice envoys were sent back by the Soviets, who demanded that the emissaries obtain a mandate to take up peace negotiations, a wireless message from Moscow says.

Troops Disbanded

All is Quiet in Miami After Day of Excitement

Miami, Fla., August 3.—The State troops mobilized yesterday because of the race trouble fears, demobilized today after the negro who was killed in a jump from a train was put aboard a steamer for Nassau, Bahama, for burial. The negro was charged with attacking an aged white woman and jumped to escape the officers. There is no disorder now.

HARRISON ISSUES STATEMENT

On Recent Increase Granted By Inter-State Commission

COMPLETES CIRCUIT OF MANAGEMENT

Private Management Will Resume Practice of Competitive Efficiency

Special to the Daily Item.

Washington, August 3.—Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway system said today: "The tremendous increase of railroad rates authorized by the interstate commerce commission seems to complete the circuit of government management of the railroads industry. It was necessary to carry the scale of expenses set up by the railway administration but it must cause grave concern as to its economical consequences. It now remains for private management to resume the practice of competitive efficiency and self reliant initiative which distinguished the American Railroads during so many years and to justify the preference of the American people for that form of administration by making possible not only the success of individual companies and the prosperity of their loyal employees but a constant and progressive reduction of rates accomplished by an enlargement of service to the public such as may be traced through the old fashioned railroad statistics. No one can expect this to be accomplished over night considering the present conditions but a start can be made at once relying on the cooperation and support of the employees the management of the Southern railway system will make the effort."

Washington, August 3.—Disposal of more than 1,500,000 tons of wooden shipping—406 vessels of various types—built as a part of the government's war time merchant marine program is one of the most difficult problems facing the Shipping Board. Twenty-one of the craft, aggregating 82,000 deadweight tons, were offered recently, but no buyers were found.

Only 194 of these wooden craft are now in operation. Seventy-three are tied up at various ports under managing caretakers and 139 are in storage yards. One hundred and seven of those in "storage" are finished hulls while 32 are converted barges.

Officials of the board say that when the serviceability of the wooden fleet has been demonstrated little difficulty will be experienced in turning it over to private ownership at about \$90 per ton. These vessels were built in an emergency, many of them of green timber, and some of them made poor showings a year and two years ago, but now that they have seasoned, officers of the board consider them practically cargo carriers.

Because of the bad record of some of the vessels operators have condemned them all, officials declare, whereas, the records of those now in operation show very creditable performances. One wooden ship out of six round trips across the Atlantic, at sea 500 days and in port an equal number, was laid up for repairs only 22 days.

To date 532 wooden and composite ships, aggregating 1,946,250 deadweight tons, consisting of 322 cargo ships, one tanker, 115 finished hulls, ten sailing craft, 53 hulls converted into barges and 20 standard barges, have been delivered to the board. A total of 114 of these vessels, aggregating 397,285 deadweight tons, has been sold and 12 totalling 44,546 tons have been lost at sea.

The total cost of the construction of this fleet, estimated by the board at \$170 a deadweight ton, was approximately \$332,000,000. Sale of the 1,500,000 tons now held by the board at \$90 per ton would yield \$135,000,000. Those already sold brought about \$28,000,000 so that if the 406 remaining in the government's possession are disposed of to private owners the total loss through the wooden ship venture would be something like \$170,000,000.

Martial Law in Ireland

All Duties of Crown Tribunal Taken Over

London, August 3.—The duties of the crown tribunal of Ireland will be taken over by courtmartial, even to the extent of settling civilian disputes, inflicting fines and binding accused persons over to keep the peace, under the terms of the new Irish bill, which was made public today.

Carroll Enters Race

Will Oppose Turner Logan For Congress

Columbia, August 3.—Francis F. Carroll, an attorney of Summerville, today filed his pledge and paid the assessment as a candidate for congress in the First congressional district. He is seeking the seat held in the last congress by Hon. Richard S. Whaley, who recently announced his withdrawal from the race.

The books of entry for candidates opened ten days ago by the State Democratic executive committee, and were closed at noon today with Mr. Carroll, the new candidate, to enter the race against W. Turner Logan.

Locklear in Trouble

Daring Pilot Suffers Accident and Passenger Killed

Los Angeles, August 3.—An investigation has been ordered to deal with Lieutenant Omar Locklear. Milton Elliott was killed last night in a sensational airplane fireworks stunt for the motion pictures. Locklear, the pilot, set off a rocket and attempted to follow it in a nose dive with five searchlights playing on the machine, but was unable to right the plane. Locklear was the first man to change planes in the air.

Wheat Goes Up

Chicago, August 3.—European war wheat is skyrocketing today. An upward swing of 15 cents a bushel occurred in a single hour.

SHIPPING BOARD IN TROUBLE

No Buyers Found For Twenty-One Ships

OPERATORS SCARED OF BAD RECORD

Over Five Hundred Ships Have Been Delivered to Board

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Suffragists Alarmed

Mrs. Baker Wants Cox and Harding to Act at Once

Dayton, August 3.—Mrs. Abbie Scott Baker, chairman of the national woman's party, told Governor Cox today that unless efforts are increased the Tennessee legislature is certain to reject the suffrage amendment. She asked him to press the suffrage cause more seriously. She will make a similar request of Senator Harding tomorrow.

President Better

Grayson Leaves For Vacation After Trying Time

Washington, August 3.—Rear Admiral Grayson began his vacation today, stating that the president's condition had shown such marked improvement it was not necessary to put him in the care of another physician.

Mail Plane Crashes

Falls into House, None Injured

Omaha, August 3.—The transcontinental mail plane, piloted by Captain Hartney, with Eddie Rickenbacker as passenger, crashed into a house near here. None were injured.

L U M B E R

Flooring, Ceiling, Siding, Casings, Moldings, Framing Lumber, Red Cedar Shingles, Pine and Cypress Shingles, Doors, Sash and Blinds, Porch Columns and Ballasters, Beaver Board, Valley Tin and Ridge Roll,

LUMBER

Locks, Hinges, Nails, Grates, Saws, Hatchets, Hammers, Door Hangers, Carpenter's Tools, Paint Brushes, Paints and Oils, Inside Decorations, Calomines and Cold Water Paints,

Brick, Lime, Cement, Plaster, Fire Brick, Fire Clay, Sewer Pipe, Stove Pipe, Terra Cotta, Thimbles, Mortar, Colors and Stains, Water Proofing Mineral, Corrugated Metal Roofing, Asbestos and Composition Roofing.

WIRE FENCING, IRON AND WOOD POSTS

EVERYTHING FOR THE HOUSE

Booth & McLeod, Inc.

SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

Home Demonstration Meeting Great Success

Laid to Advertise Bethel School at County Fair

Home demonstration and girls sewing club special meetings held last evening at Bethel school, and a number of ladies and girls and several gentlemen held a very successful community booth at the county fair for the 1920 Sumter fair.

Plan to Increase Attendance

Spartanburg, August 5.—A plan for doubling the Sunday School enrollment and attendance of any Sunday school has just been announced by the State Sunday School Association and may be secured by addressing General Superintendent Leon C. Palmerson, 114 Allen & Law Building, Spartanburg.

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