

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 TRUK SOUTHTRON, Established June 1, 1866.

CONSOLIDATED AUG. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1921

VOL. LI. NO. 45

LIEUT. LANGDON WAS MURDERED

Japanese Sentry Admits Killing American Officer Without Reasonable Excuse

CLAIMS THAT RIFLE FIRED BY ACCIDENT

Testimony Before Japanese Board of Inquiry Confirms Ante Mortem Statement of Lieut. Langdon

Washington, Jan. 17.—Lieut. W. H. Langdon, American naval officer, who was shot and killed by a Japanese sentry at Vladivostok January 8, was the victim of an unprovoked attack, dispatches to the state department and to the navy department today agreed.

Both sets of dispatches were based on statements elicited from the accused sentry by the board of investigation and court of inquiry convened by the Japanese government. The sentry's statements were described as in agreement with the ante-mortem statement of the affair by Lieutenant Langdon in that the sentry, who previously had maintained that the American officer fired first, also was reported as having told the court of inquiry that he had discharged his rifle by accident.

The dispatches to the navy department filed by Admiral Gleaves, commander in chief of the Asiatic fleet, now en route to Vladivostok with an American naval court of inquiry to investigate the shooting, added that the sentry had been recommended for court-martial by the Japanese authorities.

While the dispatches received today were more complete than any that had previously reached Washington, and while officials express gratification that an agreement had been reached as to what actually happened, no tendency was displayed in official circles to relax the determination to investigate the matter thoroughly, and for that reason Admiral Gleaves with his court of inquiry will continue on his way to the Siberian port. State department officials also continued to await a reply to the note sent the Japanese government requesting an explanation of the incident and assurance that it would not be repeated.

The state department was informed in its dispatches that Langdon, who is described as "a total abstainer" was returning to his ship early on the morning of January 8, using a flashlight in order to pick his way along an ice covered street. The sentry was on duty before the headquarters of the Japanese Eleventh division.

"The final story and full admission of the sentry" the summary of the report of the investigating board added, "made after a thorough interrogation by the Japanese board of investigation and court of inquiry, was that the sentry left his post and ran across the street, three times called out, 'Halt' and that Lieutenant Langdon did not halt. The sentry said that he then took a position three paces in front of Lieutenant Langdon with his rifle held at the position 'Charge bayonets.' Lieutenant Langdon then stopped, according to the sentry's story, and shifted the electric pocket lamp to his left hand groping with his right hand in the pockets of his overcoat. The sentry asserted that he himself then took the position 'For action' and queried Lieutenant Langdon with the words, 'Russian or American.'

"The sentry admitted that he was very excited but protested that he did not intend to shoot Lieutenant Langdon but that his purpose was to seize Lieutenant Langdon's electric flashlight and compel him to accompany him to the guard house in order that he might ascertain who the lieutenant was. He declared that he then discharged his rifle by accident and wounded Lieutenant Langdon in the breast, Lieutenant Langdon firing two or three revolver shots at him."

Admiral Gleaves' message to the navy department today said:

"Report of Japanese court of inquiry has been received by Albany. Court recommends trial by court-martial for Japanese sentry who shot Langdon. The sentry so changed his testimony during the court of inquiry, that his testimony and Langdon's ante-mortem statement practically coincide."

Admiral Gleaves also forwarded to the department the following dispatch from Capt. L. C. Richardson, commanding officer of the Albany.

"Tomorrow afternoon General O will call officially to deliver radio which, in substance, will be as follows:

"To Admiral Gleaves: I wish to express my deep regret and condolence at the death of Lieutenant Langdon, U. S. N., which was caused by a Japanese sentry. In a spirit of peace and good will, I will make every effort to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion of the affair and a full and open investigation."

General O is the Japanese commander at Vladivostok.

MONUMENT TO PATRIOT OF 1776

State of South Carolina Honors Memory of Thomas Heyward, Jr.

Columbia, Jan. 20.—A monument to the late Thomas Heyward, Jr., is soon to be erected in the old family grounds, "Old House," in St. Luke's parish, Beaufort county, by the state of South Carolina, marking the grave of one of South Carolina's distinguished sons of Revolutionary days. The monument is now in Columbia, having been made by the Granite and Marble works. Officials of the company said that the monument will be erected within the next few days.

The pedestal of the monument stands ten feet high, of Wainsboro blue granite, with a portrait bronze bust of the late distinguished Carolinian, on top of the stone.

The inscription on the monument reads:

"1746-1809, in memory of Thomas Heyward, Jr., patriot, statesman, soldier, jurist. Member of the Continental Congress 1775; Member of the Council of Safety of South Carolina 1775; Signer of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776. Signer of the Articles of American Confederation in behalf of the state of South Carolina, July 9, 1778; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 1778. At the siege of Charleston, May 12, 1780, he commanded the Charleston battalion of Volunteers and in the surrender of the city was taken prisoner and confined at St. Augustine, Fla., for one year; member of the Constitutional Convention of South Carolina 1790. He was son of Col. Daniel Heyward, by Maria, daughter of William Miles, Esq. Erected by the State of South Carolina."

SOUTHERN REDUCES SERVICE

Eight Trains To Be Taken Off On Account of Light Travel

Danville, Va., Jan. 19.—On account of decreased travel, the Southern railway system announces that it will discontinue temporarily eight interstate trains, which now, to a large extent, duplicate the service afforded by other trains and are not necessary to the public convenience under present conditions.

Nos. 23 and 24, between Washington and Memphis, running over the Southern between Washington and Lynchburg, and between Bristol and Memphis, and Nos. 43 and 136 between Washington and Danville, will be discontinued Sunday, January 23, and Nos. 29 and 40, between Greenville and Atlanta, and Nos. 13 and 14 between Columbia and Charleston, on Sunday, January 30, giving a total reduction of 2,491 train miles per day.

Nos. 35 and 36 will make all stops now made between Washington and Danville made by Nos. 43 and 136. Nos. 27 and 28, the "Carolina Special" will make all stops between Columbia and Charleston now made by Nos. 13 and 14, and adjustments in the schedules of other trains will be made practically to take up the service now furnished locally by Nos. 23, 24, 29 and 40.

On Sunday, January 30 the Asheville-Nashville sleeping car will be shortened to a Knoxville-Nashville line; the Cincinnati-Columbia sleeping car will be shortened to run between Cincinnati and Asheville, and parlor car now operated between Columbia and Charleston will be discontinued. It is hoped that the necessity for these changes will prove only temporary, and that there will be an early return to normal passenger travel, which will justify a restoration of the former service.

MOVEMENT FOR SMALLER NAVY

Eorah Resolution Reported Favorably by Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Washington, Jan. 20.—Senator Eorah's resolution proposing negotiations for the reduction of naval building by the United States, Great Britain and Japan was favorably reported today by the senate foreign relations committee. Instead of the original proposal the negotiations look to a reduction of fifty per cent in future building for five years. The committee proposed negotiations to provide for such reductions as can be agreed upon.

HARDING'S TRUNK PACKED

President-Elect Will Arrive at St. Augustine on Saturday

Marion, Jan. 20.—President-elect Harding packed his trunk today preparatory to leaving shortly after midnight for Florida. His train will go by Columbia, Cincinnati, Chattanooga, Atlanta, Jacksonville and arrive at St. Augustine Saturday morning.

COLUMBIA, JAN. 20

Columbia, Jan. 20.—Senators Christensen, Marion and Laney have a bill to submit to the people the question of eliminating from the constitution the three-mill school tax.

NO CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP

After Stormy Session Representatives in Congress Adopt Bill Limiting Membership for Ten Years to Present Total of Four Hundred and Thirty-Five

Washington, Jan. 19.—At the end of the most turbulent session of the present congress, the house late today adopted the reorganization bill with an amendment limiting its membership for the next ten years to the present total of 435.

The fight to prevent increase to 435 was won several hours earlier, however, when the house sitting in committee of the whole refused to postpone consideration of the whole question of redistricting and there voted 198 to 179 to keep the present maximum. It was after long parliamentary wrangling that the bill was brought before the house itself for a final showdown. The 435 amendment was agreed to by a vote of 267 to 176 and the measure made ready for passage.

Right at the start the effort was made to knock the bill in the head by striking out the exacting clause. It started a veritable row, during which the house got its feet tangled in parliamentary proceedings from which it was lifted back in to a orderly run with difficulty.

After deciding to proceed with the measure, Representative Farbour, Republican member of the census committee, which reported, managed to make himself heard above the din by proposing the 435 maximum amendment, around which the battle was waged. Other amendments were offered, one to cut the membership to 37 and another to raise it to 450, both were voted down in a rout of 268.

After the real fight had been soiled, Representative Tinkham, Republican, Massachusetts, came up with a proposal to reduce house seats in states where it is alleged negroes are denied the right of franchise and the battle started afresh. Representative Langworth, Republican, Ohio, raised a point of order against the Tinkham amendment and after nearly two hours of debate the point was sustained.

Another wrangle developed over an amendment by Representative Harcourt to perfect the bill by providing machinery for redistricting in the 48 states which will lose seats after March 1, 1923. The Farbour plan and many substitutes finally were defeated, and the several states will be left to work out the problem in accordance with long established custom and law.

As the bill stands the states which will lose representation in the house are: Missouri 2; Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Vermont, one each. The 12 seats will be shifted to eight states in this order: California 3, Michigan 2, Ohio 2 and Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas and Washington, one each.

HOUSE ENDORSES NITRATE BILL

Congress Urged to Complete Muscle Shoals Plant For Benefit of Farmers

Columbia, Jan. 20.—A concurrent resolution urging the national house of representatives to pass the "Nitrate Bill" already voted by the United States senate, was adopted by the South Carolina house of representatives today. The resolution urged completing of the nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals, in areas of the farmers of the country.

Representative Bradford introduced a resolution urging the farmers of the state to reduce their cotton acreage this year.

A petition for amendment of the compulsory education law to allow school districts to vote upon its discontinuance, was presented to the legislature today, signed by twenty-eight people of Greenville county.

The petition was resolved as information.

ALABAMA LYNCHING CASE

Grand Jury Still Pursuing Investigation of National Guard Mob

Jasper, Jan. 20.—The special grand jury that is investigating the lynching of William Baird, the miner, continued work today, although it returned indictments yesterday against nine members of the Alabama National Guard. No further report is expected before tomorrow, but it is understood the jurors are inquiring into allegations that members of company M, other than those already indicted, had knowledge of the plans of those who actually lynched Baird.

TAX REVISION LAW

Constitutional Amendment to Classify Property Proposed

Columbia, Jan. 20.—The constitutional amendment recommended by Senator Marion's special commission appointed by the 1920 legislature to study the tax situation in South Carolina, allowing the legislature to classify property for taxation, is provided in a resolution before the general assembly, of which Senators Marion, Christensen and Laney are authors. The resolution would submit to the people of the state in the general election of 1922 question of amending the constitution, Article III of amendments to allow the general assembly to put property in the state in different classes for taxation. The aim of this is to provide heavier taxes on certain classes of property than on others and to tax certain property now escaping taxation.

BANDITS MADE BIG HAUL

Chicago Bond Houses Admits Less of \$78,000 in Securities

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Securities valued at \$78,000 were taken in the mail truck robbery here Tuesday morning, bond houses announce. Postal officials made no statement. Reports persist that the bandits got as much as a half million.

ALBERT JOHNSON MARRIES ACTRESS

New York, Jan. 20.—The marriage of Peggy Marsh, English actress to Albert L. Johnson, a brother of the late Tom Johnson, former mayor of Cleveland, occurred at Greenwich, Conn., January 18th, became known today. The actress came to this country a few weeks ago and announced that she would institute legal proceedings to obtain a part of the fortune of the late Henry Field, second, of Chicago, in behalf of her son Henry Anthony Marsh.

MARTIN VAN FURUN'S OPPOSITION TO THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS COST HIM THE NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT IN 1848.

GREAT FIRE IN WORCESTER

Heart of City Burning With Estimated Loss \$12,000,000 Already in Sight

Worcester, Mass., Jan. 19.—Fire starting early today in the Knowles building here destroyed that and spread to nineteen other places within a radius of one mile. It is expected that the loss will be at least two million dollars.

The Knowles building, in the heart of the city was quickly destroyed. The fire then spread across Main street. In a short time other fires were reported in all quarters of the city and reports of incendiaries are out.

One fire was in a group of three-story wooden buildings in the lumber district. The blaze began in the rear of one building and in adjoining building the firemen found a flaming surface in front of a doorway.

The loss as finally determined is upwards of one million dollars. The police had only the faintest suspicion that the fires were incendiary, but the origin of the principal ones have not been determined.

HOUSE ENDORSES NITRATE BILL

Congress Urged to Complete Muscle Shoals Plant For Benefit of Farmers

Columbia, Jan. 20.—A concurrent resolution urging the national house of representatives to pass the "Nitrate Bill" already voted by the United States senate, was adopted by the South Carolina house of representatives today. The resolution urged completing of the nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals, in areas of the farmers of the country.

Representative Bradford introduced a resolution urging the farmers of the state to reduce their cotton acreage this year.

A petition for amendment of the compulsory education law to allow school districts to vote upon its discontinuance, was presented to the legislature today, signed by twenty-eight people of Greenville county.

The petition was resolved as information.

ALABAMA LYNCHING CASE

Grand Jury Still Pursuing Investigation of National Guard Mob

Jasper, Jan. 20.—The special grand jury that is investigating the lynching of William Baird, the miner, continued work today, although it returned indictments yesterday against nine members of the Alabama National Guard. No further report is expected before tomorrow, but it is understood the jurors are inquiring into allegations that members of company M, other than those already indicted, had knowledge of the plans of those who actually lynched Baird.

TAX REVISION LAW

Constitutional Amendment to Classify Property Proposed

Columbia, Jan. 20.—The constitutional amendment recommended by Senator Marion's special commission appointed by the 1920 legislature to study the tax situation in South Carolina, allowing the legislature to classify property for taxation, is provided in a resolution before the general assembly, of which Senators Marion, Christensen and Laney are authors. The resolution would submit to the people of the state in the general election of 1922 question of amending the constitution, Article III of amendments to allow the general assembly to put property in the state in different classes for taxation. The aim of this is to provide heavier taxes on certain classes of property than on others and to tax certain property now escaping taxation.

BANDITS MADE BIG HAUL

Chicago Bond Houses Admits Less of \$78,000 in Securities

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Securities valued at \$78,000 were taken in the mail truck robbery here Tuesday morning, bond houses announce. Postal officials made no statement. Reports persist that the bandits got as much as a half million.

ALBERT JOHNSON MARRIES ACTRESS

New York, Jan. 20.—The marriage of Peggy Marsh, English actress to Albert L. Johnson, a brother of the late Tom Johnson, former mayor of Cleveland, occurred at Greenwich, Conn., January 18th, became known today. The actress came to this country a few weeks ago and announced that she would institute legal proceedings to obtain a part of the fortune of the late Henry Field, second, of Chicago, in behalf of her son Henry Anthony Marsh.

MARTIN VAN FURUN'S OPPOSITION TO THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS COST HIM THE NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT IN 1848.

PENNSYLVANIA CUTS WAGES

President Rea Calls For Utmost Economy Consistent With Safety and Efficiency

Philadelphia, Jan. 19.—The Pennsylvania Railroad company today instructed all departments throughout the system to effect a further reduction in expenses of 10 per cent, as compared with the increases in November, 1920. This is in addition to the 10 per cent reduction ordered when the reorganization campaign was started last month and which already has resulted in the laying off of approximately 20,000 men in the four regions of the system. Continued falling off of business was given as the reason for today's action. Freight traffic has declined 30 to 25 per cent as compared with the early fall, the company announced.

"There is no arbitrary rate adopted," said a statement issued by Samuel Rea, president of the system. "The principle on which the reduction will be made is to secure the utmost economy consistent with safety and efficiency. The vice presidents, however, have been directed that in carrying out these instructions they shall do so in the manner best adapted to avoid, as far as possible, unnecessary disruption of the organizations or individual hardship."

It is to be hoped that the reduction in business will continue for only a brief period. The management of the Pennsylvania railroad severely regrets that uninterrupted employment can not be assured to every faithful man on his payrolls. But the situation is a practical one and no way has as yet been devised in such circumstances as those now existing to avoid a reduction in expense and working force.

"An indication of the severity of the conditions confronting the management is that the Pennsylvania railroad now has in its lines 14,000 idle freight cars which is about 20 per cent of the number owned, and that the idle cars are increasing daily. Freight traffic has declined 30 to 25 per cent as compared with the early fall and all available information, as to the prevailing conditions in the productive industries and general commerce indicates that a further slowing down in the freight movement must be anticipated before recovery can sensibly be expected. It is probable, therefore, that the course open to the management is to accept the sacrifice of some employees."

COTTON MILL WAGE SCALE

Mill Hands Receive 250 Per Cent More Wages Than in 1913

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.—The department of labor table said if the maximum wage cut of twenty-two and one-half per cent is applied generally in the cotton mill industry to 22 scales it would still leave the hourly wage two hundred and fifty per cent higher than prevailed in 1913 or one hundred and twenty-five per cent higher than in 1918.

DECISION FOR CORBETT

Judge Shipp Overrules Demurrer by State

Orangeburg, Jan. 19.—Judge Shipp, upon the reconvening of court this morning, overruled the demurrer as set out by the state in the case of the state against Carlos Corbett. Yesterday morning the defense set up the plea of former jeopardy and arguments were heard all day. Corbett was acquitted last September and the judge this morning sustained the view of the attorneys for the defense. The attorneys for the state, when seen by this correspondent this morning immediately after the judge's decision, announced their intention to appeal the case to the supreme court. Corbett is still held under bail to await the further decision of the court. Corbett was represented by a number of agencies, who were Messrs. Wolfe and Perry, John S. Wells and J. J. R. Dukes, of the city of H. Fairbank of Springfield, Ex-governor Cole L. Blease, of Columbia, and Ex-judge Mendel L. Smith, of Camden. Solicitor Hydrick was assisted by Messrs. T. M. Rayson and Adam H. Moss, of the local bar.

John Lloyd, who was convicted last week of an assault and battery with intent to kill and with carrying concealed weapons, was sentenced to serve twelve months in the county jail and fined \$200. During good behavior eleven months of the said sentence will be suspended, but the fine must be paid.

WILSON DEFENDS POST

Secretary of Labor Replies to Attack of American Legion

Washington, Jan. 20.—The defense of the department of labor in dealing with radical aliens and the complete endorsement of Assistant Secretary Post's work was made by Secretary Wilson in a statement replying to the attack on Post by the executive committee of the American Legion.

HARDING FINDS JOB DIFFICULT

Formation of Cabinet Halted by Factional and Personal Differences

Washington, Jan. 19.—The task of selecting a cabinet has been found so difficult by President-elect Harding that he has given up his plan of making early definite selections for two or three of the more important portfolios.

Without indicating the exact nature of the complications he has encountered, the president-elect said tonight that after several weeks of consideration he was not disposed to commit himself in regard to any one of the cabinet places until he was ready to make final selections for all of them. He added that he considered his difficulties only normal manifestations of personal and factional currents, and said with a smile that the situation was not keeping him awake nights.

He did not predict when he might come to a decision but his attitude generally was accepted here as indicating that definite selections would not be announced until just prior to his inauguration.

"I had thought originally," Mr. Harding said in discussing informally the cabinet problem, "to name two or three cabinet places in advance, in order to permit the parties named to take up informally the work that is to be theirs. But I have found it so difficult to fit in an administrative organization, that I am not disposed to make definite binders and have men accept until I myself have made up a complete organization."

"There is no semblance of any marked divide either for or against, either in support or in opposition to any individual. There is the natural current of both political and personal recommendations and the natural cross currents of personal individual and factional opposition. It is all normal and does not keep me awake nights."

"I am thinking all the time of getting an organization best fitted to serve the country. I am a partisan. I believe in party government. I am going to have a Republican cabinet, but no selection will be made because of any obligation, without consideration for the best service to the country."

The emphasis placed by the president-elect on his desire for a "Republican cabinet" was the first time he had referred to such a party slogan. Mr. Harding now has laid aside the whole business of making a cabinet and he does not expect to revert to it again until the end of his two weeks' houseboat trip which begins Saturday at St. Augustine, Fla.

His first announcement was made tonight that the president-elect would depart from Florida to Marion before the inauguration. He will spend only one day, however, arriving on March 2 and leaving on March 3 for Washington.

NEW PENSION LAW PROPOSED

Senator Hart Suggests an Entirely New Plan

Columbia, Jan. 20.—An entirely new idea in the matter of pensioning Confederate veterans, providing for two classes of pensions, instead of four, as at present, is being presented to the legislature by Senator Hart of York. In a bill revising the pension system, the bill would provide that the pension fund be distributed to the counties in proportion to the number of pensioners in the various counties, the county pension boards to divide their allotments to the veterans in two classes. Class A would be those veterans who have reached the age of 80, and who lost an arm, a leg or their eyesight, who are paralyzed, or who are totally incapacitated, or whose income is not over \$300 a year. Class B would be all other pensioners not in class A, these to receive \$75 each. If the pension fund in a county allows for Class B pensioners to receive more than \$75 each, then the money would be divided so as to give three-fourths of the total to Class A and one-fourth to Class B. Under the present plan all classifying has been done by the county boards, before the pension fund was disbursed to the counties, resulting in some counties getting more than others, in proportion to the number of pensioners.

CHRISTY MATTHEWSON IMPROVING

Able to Leave His Room For First Time in Seven Months

New York, Jan. 20.—Christy Matthewson, the famous ball pitcher, who has been seriously ill of tuberculosis, at Sagadahoc Lake for the last seven months, and who has been too ill to see anyone, but his wife and physician, has improved to such an extent that he was placed in an invalid's chair yesterday for the first time and taken outside of his room.