

## 769 Dead firer July 4 Accidents

The nation's observance of the Fourth of July and efforts to escape the worst heat wave of the year cost 769 lives in the heaviest holiday carnage in history, a survey showed Tuesday.

316 died on the highways. 263 drowned. 51 died from heat prostration. 17 died in airplane accidents. 122 died violently in miscellaneous accidents.

No one was killed by fireworks, but many critical and painful injuries were reported despite the laws banning their use in most areas. The total of dead exceeded predictions by the National Safety Council, which had forecast that 600 persons would die, 290 of them in traffic.

As temperatures soared, many motorists died on highways while driving to lakes, rivers and beaches, where others drowned or succumbed to heat under the burning sun.

One man died in snow. Maj. Louis Axelrod, an Army surgeon from Chicago, was killed in a stinging accident at Idaho Springs, Colo. At Elmwood, Ill., a woman died of a bee's sting.

Storm victims boosted National Safety Council's total to the greatest for the nation—53, including 12 traffic deaths and 22 by drowning.

Texas was second with 56, including 32 in traffic and 13 by drowning and eight in auto crashes. California and Pennsylvania each had totals of 32 deaths.

The jam of automobiles, truck piles and special buses on highways over the nation was unrivaled even further by the many collisions.

A Greyhound bus and a milk truck collided head-on near Smithfield, N. C., killing three persons and injuring all passengers on the bus.

It was similar to a wreck between a bus and automobile in which three persons died near Indianapolis.

A series of fires took many lives. Seven aged persons were killed Sunday at a hotel fire in Berkeley, Wash. An usher died while 600 other persons fled safely out of a Salt Lake City theater where fire broke out in the basement.

Twenty-five firemen were injured in a \$750,000 fire that wrecked a lumber yard warehouse and cutting mill at Silver Springs, Md.

**BE A TIMBER OWNER ALL OF YOUR LIFE**

Cullman, Ala.—H. J. Stewart, partner of a tract of timber near here, was recently offered \$750 for 40 acres of his timberland.

Before selling, however, he requested the assistance of the A. P. I. Extension Service forestry specialist.

A partial cut was made on the woodland from which Mr. Stewart received \$1,400. A good stand of young, fast growing trees is left which will produce another crop of timber in the next 10 years.

Stewart believes that \$1,400 every 10 years is much better than \$750 once in a lifetime. This is why he offers all Alabama timber owners to practice selective cutting.

Lauderdale County, created Feb. 6, 1818, was named in honor of Col. James Lauderdale, "a gallant Tennessee" who was killed in action during a night attack on the British forces just below New Orleans Dec. 23, 1814.

Of the 35 varieties of minerals known to exist in Alabama, 20 are in sufficient quantities to merit their being mined for commercial purposes.

Although the Confederate Congress appropriated \$1,122,480 in 1862 for the construction of a railroad from Rome, Ga. to Blue Mountain, Ala., the project was not completed by the end of the war.

St. Clair County was named in honor of Gen. Arthur St. Clair. The general was an outstanding officer in Washington's Colonial Army.

Alabama's territorial capital, St. Stephens, was settled by the Spaniards in 1780. Some twelve years later the American colonists moved in. The first American establishment to be set up was a trading house operated by one Joseph Chambers.

A few pieces of dried orange rind kept in the tea canister will five afternoons a delicious fragrance and flavor.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

As Recorded in the Files of The Colbert County Reporter of This Date

Jesse Isbell, 26, is killed by north bound N. A. freight train at Littleville, near Sheffield landing, shortly coming to town. Sons of Confederate veterans organize with these officers—L. A. Williams, commander; R. A. Irwin, first lieutenant; commander; R. F. Ridley, second lieutenant; W. T. Gilbert, adjutant; Dr. R. L. Montgomery, surgeon; Henry A. Jobb, quartermaster; John W. Davis, chaplain; W. S. Blackburn, treasurer; C. E. Carmichael, color sergeant; J. E. Isbell, historian; N. P. Tompkins, judge advocate. U. S. Government Steamer Tuscumbia, sinks in the Tennessee river near Sheffield landing. Mr. and Mrs. Elston Bigbee and small son, of Memphis, guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Morris. Eleven-year-old Dewey Thorp dies from injuries received when run over by a truck near his home at Littleville.

General Stewart, negro, charged with including Justice Black in the present circumstances here, is now being held in the Birmingham papers are, in his opinion, highly unfair, unreasonable and bordering on the fanatic. It is not easy to nail down substantial evidence against perpetrators of mob violence—as so potent and efficient an agency as the FBI could certify. It may be recalled that the FBI spent nine months before it could ferret out enough evidence to make arrests in the Monroe (Georgia) lynching case. Yet some of the Birmingham editors and their staff to track down and handcuff the Alabama mobsters (exclusive of the Bessemer cut-off) he has had only six deputies available for patrolling and criminal investigation in an area of more than 1,000 square miles.

Some reckless critics have gone so far as to leave an inference that the sheriff is sympathetic with the mobsters. That is a low blow below the belt, for McDowell is no kluxer and (unlike some other public officials up to and including Justice Black) never has been in the present circumstances here, following his habitual policy of going after evidence that will stand up in court before making arrests, and he deserves support instead of criticism. The Sheriff, at least, is one official who has not played politics with the Klan excitement by issuing righteous statements of condemnation. One of the latest of these was the weekend broadcast by Governor Folsom damning the hooded thugs and vowing that "they won't be tolerated as long as I am governor," which statement is about as far as the present circumstances here, following his habitual policy of going after evidence that will stand up in court before making arrests, and he deserves support instead of criticism.

Incidentally, there would seem to be considerable irony in the appointment by a group of citizens of William Mitch to a committee to investigate the kluxers. As head of the United Mine Workers in this district, Mitch is in about the same position as Dr. Pruett, the Klan director, as regards recent instances of violence. Their respective organizations are equally suspect in promoting that violence and, looking at the question logically, Pruett would appear to have as much business being on the committee as has Mitch. But, of course, union labor still enjoys certain peculiar prerogatives and somehow seems to be immune to the current anti-vice hysteria.

One more thing about the Klan: the movement to revoke its charter is quite a step in the public interest. The organization is as useless as it is troublesome and its complete disintegration would be welcomed by all law-abiding citizens.—Alabama Magazine

## CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH

The most rapidly growing project in the history of the United States, according to the American Medical Association, is the health insurance plan. The movement started slowly, and for a considerable time it was in an experimental stage. At the end of its first seven years, the largest organization in the field had only 2,870,000 subscribers. Now it has 32,500,000. And more than 20,000,000 people are enrolled in other groups.

These voluntary plans make it possible for most Americans to provide, at a very reasonable cost, protection against the financial emergency that comes with illness or accident. The basic approach of the AMA has been to stress the extension of voluntary insurance. Other points call for government aid to the small proportion of the population which is indigent, for care of the chronically ill, for the establishment of a Federal Department of Health with cabinet status, and for other ends. In each case, emphasis is placed on protecting the public and the medical fraternity from the evils of political control and bureaucratic domination.

Here is a constructive, commonsense approach to an important problem. It stands out in sharp contrast to the scheme for subjecting everyone, regardless of need or desire, to a compulsory government health insurance plan which would probably cost \$6,000,000,000 a year or more in payroll withholding taxes by the time it got in full swing. This kind of scheme has been tried, in all its essentials, in various countries abroad and its most conspicuous achievement has been to lower the standards of medical care and to make the cost of service exorbitant.

## SMALL SLICE OF PIE

Last year was an exceptionally good one in the farm machinery business. Sales hit a peak, and wages and profits were at excellent levels. One of the largest manufacturers in this important field had sales of \$945,000,000—the greatest in its history. It's interesting to detail just what happened to that money, and how each cent was spent.

First of all, 57.2 cents out of each dollar taken in went for materials and supplies to other concerns which provided the things it had to have to carry on its business.

Payments to and on behalf of the company's employees—wages, social security taxes, group life insurance, etc.—accounted for 33.9 cents.

Taxes, Federal, state and local, required 4.2 cents. The balance, when all these essential bills were met, was profit. And it came to just 4.7 cents—less than a nickel—out of that typical sales dollar.

Finally, in 1948, the stockholders of the company didn't divide up all the profit in the form of cash. They received about half of it. The other half went back into the business for needed improvements.

The point is that even in an unusually good business year the stockholder generally gets about the smallest cut out of industry's financial pie.

Women especially believe in free speech because they are freer in their speech than men.

## EDITORIAL GRIST

### FOR A SANER APPROACH

Certainly to many citizens the great hue and cry over the Kl Klux Klan ought to be supplanted now by a less emotional approach to the matter. Out of all the noise and bluster can come an orderly, efficient solution to an age-old problem. The outbreak of beatings in and near Jefferson County must, of course, be quelled, but when you put out a fire you don't necessarily have to beat the life out of it with an old broom. There are better, if less spectacular, methods.

"Demands" from groups of excited citizens that Jefferson's Sheriff McDowell make immediate arrests are patently silly, since no law enforcement officer worth his salt is going to collar suspects without reasonable sufficient evidence to back him up. That Sheriff McDowell has refused to be stampeded by a point in his credit and criticisms against him in the Birmingham papers are, in his opinion, highly unfair, unreasonable and bordering on the fanatic.

It is not easy to nail down substantial evidence against perpetrators of mob violence—as so potent and efficient an agency as the FBI could certify. It may be recalled that the FBI spent nine months before it could ferret out enough evidence to make arrests in the Monroe (Georgia) lynching case. Yet some of the Birmingham editors and their staff to track down and handcuff the Alabama mobsters (exclusive of the Bessemer cut-off) he has had only six deputies available for patrolling and criminal investigation in an area of more than 1,000 square miles.

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Women especially believe in free speech because they are freer in their speech than men.

Another noticeable change in present conditions, is that nobody is superstitious about two-dollar bills.

A local man says marriage isn't a problem to work out, it is a problem to work out off.

## STATE FARMERS URGED TO ACCEPT \$4,200,000

Auburn, Ala.—As of June 1, Alabama farmers had used only \$2,432,085 out of \$6,685,000 appropriated to carry out conservation practices included in the P. M. A. program for 1949.

B. L. Collins, state executive officer of Production and Marketing Administration, warns that state farmers will lose the difference between these two amounts if it is not used by December 31.

Even when it is assumed that payment rates for winter legumes will be higher than they were last year, it is doubtful if this practice will require much more than \$2,000,000, believes Collins.

This is why he urges farmers to complete every practice approved to date, and, in addition, carry out practices valued at two and one-quarter million dollars above the \$2,000,000 expected to be used for winter legumes.

In other words, farmers interested in constructing terraces and drainage ditches; applying phosphate, potash, and basic slag to approved soil conserving crops; applying liming materials; or carrying out other approved practices should contact their local P. M. A. committeeman as soon as possible.

## FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MRS. PATTERSON HELD

Funeral services for Mrs. Sallie Patterson, widow of the late Sheriff J. E. Patterson, who died Thursday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. B. Knight of Cherokee, after a long illness, were conducted Friday afternoon from the First Baptist church in Cherokee with Rev. L. D. Kennedy, pastor of Barton Baptist church, officiating. Burial followed in the Cherokee cemetery under the direction of Brown-Service Funeral home.

Mrs. Patterson, one of Cherokee's oldest citizens, was born and lived all her life in Cherokee. She was a member of the Cherokee Baptist church.

Surviving are a son, P. E. Patterson, of Memphis, Tenn.; two daughters, Mrs. W. W. Carter and Mrs. R. B. Knight, both of Cherokee; three sisters, Mrs. Alice Schnaegel of Spruce Pine, Mrs. Nora Meadows of St. Louis, Mo., and Mrs. Marie Coleman of Monroe, Mich.; 11 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Grandsons of the deceased served as pallbearers. They were W. W. Carter, Jr., J. H. Carter, Earl D. Patterson, Ben Knight, Jack Tankersley and Pat Carter.

## MOVIE PROGRAM

STRAND—Tuscumbia Saturday, July 9 Double Feature VILLAGE BARN DANCE—with Lulu Belle Scott, Also INDIAN AGENT—with Tim Holt. Sunday, July 10 A WOMAN'S SECRET—with Maureen O'Hara, Melvyn Douglas. Monday, July 11 STRIKE A CHORD—with Rod Cameron, Bonita Granville. Tuesday-Wednesday, July 12 THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD—with Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland. Thursday-Friday, July 14 THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE FROM BATHFUL BEND—Technicolor, with Betty Grable, Cesar Romero.

COLBERT—Sheffield Saturday, July 9 Double Feature WINGS OF THE MORNING—In Technicolor, with Henry Ford, Annabella. Also FALLEN PARADISE—with Haplo Cassidy. Sunday, July 10 THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD—with Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland. Tuesday-Wednesday, July 12 THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE FROM BATHFUL BEND—Technicolor, with Betty Grable, Cesar Romero. Thursday-Friday, July 14 A WOMAN'S SECRET—with Maureen O'Hara, Melvyn Douglas.

RITZ—Sheffield Sunday, July 10 Double Feature CAPTAIN FROM BASTILLE—In Technicolor, with Tyrone Power, Jean Peters. Also DANCE OF THE TIGHT SHOES—with Broderick Crawford. Monday-Tuesday, July 11-12 CRASHIN' THRU—with James Merrill. Also THE GREENER—with Onslow Stevens, June Vincent. Wednesday-Thursday, July 13-14 FRONTIER MARSHALL—with Randolph Scott, Virginia Kelly. Also PORT SAID—with Gloria Henry, William Baid. Friday-Saturday, July 15-16 MY DOG TRUSTY—with Ted Donaldson. Also THE LITTLE EXPRESS—with Johnny Mack Brown.

## Democrats Form Election Strategy

Washington.—Democratic strategy for the 1950 elections is beginning to form and it looks like this: Basic plan is to use the Taft-Hartley labor law as the main issue to hold gains in Northern and Eastern industrial areas while riding the golden promise of the Brannan farm plan to new gains in the West.

Democratic leaders say they expect to emerge from the present session of Congress with 60 per cent of their campaign promises fulfilled.

The Democrats will tell the country if it wants the rest of the program it should give them real control of Congress, instead of numerical control. Their chief gains must be made in the farm states. In the Brannan plan and other farm aid bills they believe they have a formula.

Meanwhile, the Democrats will try to extend present supports past next Jan. 1 to keep the Aiken-Hope price support bill of the last Republican Congress from becoming effective. They have delivered on their promise to provide crop storage facilities for 1949-50, a promise that was costly to the Republicans in farm votes last year.

No matter what happens now in the House on labor law revision, the Senate result last week—a victory for Sen. Robert C. Taft over the administration Democrats—represents the kind of Taft-Hartley repeal Mr. Truman sought.

The Democrats kept their names off the bill as passed. It's labeled the "Labor Management Relations Law of 1949."

House passage last week of a big government subsidy housing bill enabled the Democrats to deliver on one of their major promises. In the remainder of this session or in the first half of 1950 the Democrats expect to get some kind of federal aid to education, a compromise minimum wage bill, broadened social security coverage and an extended reciprocal trade program.

The Democrats expect the GOP to shout about excessive spending but they're ready to holler back that there would be an unbalanced budget if the Republicans hadn't cut taxes in the last congress.

DRIVE KKK OUT OF BUSINESS' HEPLIN TELLS LEGIONNAIRES

Mobile.—Howell Thomas Hefflin, nephew of the late Sen. Tom Hefflin of Alabama and a Tuscumbia attorney, opened the Alabama American Legion's three-day meeting here with a scathing attack on hooded organizations.

At a memorial service, Hefflin urged the delegates to "drive the Ku Klux Klan out of business."

"We must proceed to get rid not merely of masks, but the spirit which hides behind the hood and the sheet, the spirit of lawlessness, malice and prejudice, which first back that there is nothing lash whelps across the backs of helpless people," Hefflin said.

"Decent Alabamians must applaud the action of the Legislature and other efforts to drive the Ku Klux Klan out of business. The Klan so often is a symbol of chivalry with a fire of hate."

Hundreds of Legionnaires heard Hefflin speak at the Government Street Presbyterian Church.

HILL ORGANIZES GRAND JURY AND GIVES USUAL CHARGE

Judge Robert M. Hill organized the grand jury Monday and gave it the usual charge. Roy Berryman, of Leighton, was made foreman, with the following members:

Joe H. Allen, Tuscumbia; John L. Bendall, Russellville, Jr.; Thaddeus L. Blackburn, Allsboro; Erust H. Buettner, Sheffield; William A. Camp-Spring Valley; Harvey Coleman, Jr., Sheffield; Roy Lee Cox, Sheffield; Thomas Gargis, Brick; E. Austin Jeffrey, Brick; Claude T. Keenum, Jr., Sheffield; Lawrence H. King, Leighton; Ralph E. LeMay, Sheffield; Edward Posey, Camp Smith; W. O. Reed, Tuscumbia; Daniel O. Stutts, Tuscumbia; Willie West Thompson, Cherokee.

Mrs. Marie Bankhead Owen's home near Wetumpka, overlooking three counties, is one of the oldest remaining residences in central Alabama. Built in 1816, the old homestead was purchased by the State Archives and History Director in recent years.

Use paper cups as starting pots for slowly germinating seeds.

SO YOU SELDOM DO ANY WALKING

Walking is recognized by medical authorities as one of the best forms of physical exercise, particularly for those who have aches and pains. It is for taking things a bit easier—usually given as over forty. Many of us in these days of modern transportation, crowded highways and the hustle and bustle of the twentieth century living walk as little as possible. Just how much walking do you do in a year?

A pedometer survey recently made in several large cities clocked the daily walking distance of business men, housekeepers, salesmen, dancers, stenographers, children at play, waiters, conductors, policemen, letter carriers, singing phonyists and others. Some interesting averages were revealed.

In a single day the average distance walked was 18,098 steps or 7 1/2 miles. Exclusive of the walking he does away from business, the businessman walks in every other day, a letter carrier a distance greater than from Boston to New York. A house-keeper, with out leaving the house, walks annually a distance equal to that from Boston to San Francisco. At school and at play a schoolgirl averages 1 1/2 miles a day, a schoolboy 1 1/4 miles. A patient in a hospital, who used his car when out of doors, walked 18 miles a day. A golfer doing eighteen holes walked 8 1/2 miles. A salesgirl walked 8 miles a day and a salesman 7 3/4 miles a day. Other totals were: a policeman 22 miles a day; a department store buyer, 7 miles a day; a girl in a business office, 57 miles a week; and a stenographer, who rode to and from work, 43 miles in a week.

How far do you estimate you walked yesterday? Last week? The extent of your daily and yearly ambulations would probably surprise you.

To prevent frayed ends on rugs, stitch across each end on the sewing machine; the stitching will not show.

A light over the sink and another over the range furnish better light and guarantee better sight.