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The Tri-Cities Daily

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MUSCLE SHOALS
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tonight 75, high 8

AT LEAST 105 DEAD IN FLOOD

Leighton Negro Unable To Get His Bale Ginned

FIRST WHITE GOLD—Shown above are those present for the ginning of the first bale of 1955 Lauderdale County cotton at Oakland Gin Friday afternoon. L to r: H. C. Dewberry, ginner, Owen Cox, Lawrence Armstead, Willie Lee Williams, Douglas Cox, and Ed Jones, general manager of the gin. The Cox partners, residents of Florence, Rt. 2, picked over 15 acres to get the 1,200 pounds of seed cotton and 400 pounds of lint. They have 85 acres of cotton on the F. M. Perry estate and expect to harvest 85 bales. (Staff Photo).

Ginners In Colbert Are Not Ready

Wade May Go To Another County

Colbert County had its first bale of cotton picked and ready for ginning this morning—but Colbert County ginners weren't ready to take it.

Cliff Wade, Negro, of Leighton, spent this morning calling cotton gins throughout the county, seeking one to which he could take the first bale of cotton of the 1955 harvest in Colbert County.

None of the ginners were prepared to begin operations. They gave as their excuse the fact that they will have to pay a service charge for getting their power turned on, and the likelihood of more than a very few bales being ready for ginning in the next few weeks was slim.

Reluctantly, Cliff Wade, the first Colbert County bale on hand, W. A. Campbell's place, on Highway 20 between Leighton and Tuscumbia, was planning to take the cotton into an adjoining county where ginners have already opened for the first bales.

FLOODED BUT UNDAUNTED—The Dauntless Lane apartments in Hartford, Conn. live up to their name as they stay on their foundations despite 10 feet of flood water from Park River in the western section of the city. Several hundred residents were evacuated. (AP Wirephoto).

Damage In Billions

Waters Roaring Dov Rain-Filled Waterwa Northeastern States

Peak Of Flood Still To Come

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Furious floods ripped at the northeastern states for the second day in a row today, with 105 known dead and property damage estimated in the billions.

It was the worst such catastrophe ever to hit the region.

Rivers, bloated with record-breaking rains, rolled out of their banks across seven states, leaving thousands homeless, roads in shambles, and whole communities debris-covered ruins.

As the mopup of mud and wreckage began in battered New York and New England towns to the north, the stampeding Delaware and its tributaries still flung terror and tumult in areas farther south.

Pennsylvania took the worst beating, with 51 known dead, and at least 70 missing from waterburied camps and homes. The known dead listed by other states: Connecticut, 30; Massachusetts, 11; New Jersey 5; New York, 4; Virginia, 2; Rhode Island, 1.

As Civil Defense organizations, Red Cross and the armed forces threw emergency units into high gear, an indication of the extent of the misery came in this single report of supplies sent by the Army overnight:

Two hundred cots and blankets and two amphibious "ducks" to Trenton, N.J.; 500 cots and 1,000 blankets airlifted to Hartford, Conn.; 2,000 sandbags to Arlington, Mass.; electric generator to Torrington, Conn.; 200 mattresses and blankets to Camden, N.J.

Many towns were without power, and water supplies were spoiled. Communications were hit-or-miss at much of the shattered region.

Among the missing were an unknown number of women and children—possibly 40 or more—from a submerged group of summer cottages near Stroudsburg, Pa. Rescue workers found 14 cabins entirely under water, and no sign of life.

The camp, known as Camp Davis, was completely under water and all 14 buildings were gone. There was no indication whether the adults and children there had gotten to safety before being trapped when the Brodheads Creek overflowed.

New reports of dams crumbling under the force of swollen streams added to the swelling total of property damage.

The collapse of the Rice City Dam in North Uxbridge, Mass., sent a five-foot wall of water charging down the Bla er toward Woonso already devastated floods.

At the rising Del swirled over its banks capital of New Jers companies pumped wa basement of the state effort to forestall dar building and its valua

At Seymour, Conn., f watched the angry Na rut undermine a ce ending tombstones and concrete vaults and ce etery workers carri from broken coffins.

While downstream built hasty sandba evacuated low lyin stricken cities upstrea with relief that the there had been passed

Thousands were ho whole cities went withe water, electricity and was no news, good o worried relatives out flood areas. Telephone maining in operation served for emergency

The governors of Pe Massachusetts, Rhode Connecticut declared emergency.

Bridge after bridge w washed out. Dams bur rents of water are pou buildings and anything away. Hazardous rescues line.

Troops and facilities and 2nd Army areas we to give all aid possible ravaged areas. Bailey provide temporary rive were being moved in fr away as Marion, Ohio.

Helicopters fluttered dropping supplies and people from roof tops a scraps of high ground craft, a welcome sight f flood victims, flew in fr Navy and Coast Guard

Flood waters appa hardest at Stroudsburg, at least 20 reported dead, bury, Conn., where at le sons were reported to the River.

The Naugatuck Riv through Waterbury, to power lines and sweep Waterbury, it was "the worst flood ever," said Fire Chief Francis Stroudsburg, a resort the Poconto Mountains, with all its bridges and m washed away. There was ing water or household heating and cooking.

While Stroudsburg be messy job of bailing ou further down the Delawa system avoided the full fu torrent. At Easton, Pa., d water broke a 33-year-ol ware River flood record

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Floods-At-A-Glance

BY THE ASSOCIATED P

Northeastern states hit h floods reported these co today:

PENNSYLVANIA: At le dead, and 70 missing as Delaware and tributaries path of havoc. Scranton, Th and Stroudsburg shattered more than 2,000 homeless Stroudsburg alone. Many towns immobilized, with bridges wrecked. Two scout camps under water. Co roads and bridges out. Ph phia threatened.

CONNECTICUT: Some 16 munities declared "health areas," endangered by p damaged water mains, c contaminated food an chance of disease spreading a refugees. Flood damages gr in the Naugatuck River Valle Litchfield, Torrington, are, and nam. The dead and missing to 20.

MASSACHUSETTS: He damaged were cities in w hard across the southern pa the state, including Spring Chicopee, Holyoke and Worc With only partial reports, w loss was estimated at seve

(Continued on Page 2, Col.

First Lauderdale Bale:

400-Pounder Turned Out At Oakland On Friday

The first bale of cotton from the 1955 crop was ginned Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the Oakland Gin in West Lauderdale County for two Smithsonia partners, Owen and Douglas Cox, who have an 85-acre cotton crop on the F. M. Perry estate.

Ed Jones, manager of the Oakland Gin, which is owned and operated by James E. Rice and Thomas Reeder, said the Smithsonia farmers brought in 1,200 pounds of seed cotton that it ginned out 400 pounds of lint. This is only a fair turn-out, Mr. Jones said, as is customary with the first bale.

Last year the Oakland Gin also ginned the first 1954 Lauderdale County bale — for W. L. Rice, an Oakland farmer.

Mr. Jones said the Smithsonia farmers planned to let the bale stay at the Oakland Gin for the time being. He said that, as customary, persons connected with the local cotton industry planned to go around and collect first bale premiums for the Smithsonia farmers during the next few days.

Persons wishing to contribute premiums may contact Mr. Jones at the Oakland Gin.

5 Killed, 21 Hospitalized In Rail Wreck

MARKED TREE, Ark. (AP)—The last four cars of a fast passenger train switched from the main line onto a siding yesterday, smashing a daycoach into parked boxcars.

Five persons, including a young mother and her baby, were killed. At least 21 others were hospitalized.

The smashup of the Frisco Railroad's Kansas City to Florida special came just outside this little east Arkansas town.

Most of the dead and injured were riding in the daycoach. The impact peeled and shredded the steel side of the car.

O. P. Rainey, Frisco traffic manager, said vibration apparently snapped a rod or pin, throwing the switch open.

The special, which didn't stop at Marked Tree, was reported going about 40 m.p.h.

BIRMINGHAM (AP) — A retired railroad conductor who escaped injury in the Marked Tree wreck said more persons might have been killed if a careening coach hadn't struck a freight car.

C. C. Harbin, Chattahoochee, Fla., arrived last night from the

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Arkansans To Visit Shoals On Tuesday

Managers and board members of 44 Arkansas rural electric co-operatives will begin a five-day tour Sunday of the Tennessee Valley, including the Muscle Shoals District, to "study TVA and its results."

The tour was announced Friday at Little Rock by Harry Oswald, manager of the Arkansas State Electric Co-operative. The rural electrification leaders will make their first stop at Tupelo, Miss.

They will visit the Muscle Shoals area, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville and other sections of the TVA region.

Oswald said that the tour will replace an annual seminar on problems of rural electric co-operatives usually held at the University of Arkansas.

The Arkansas Co-operatives, which obtain their power from Arkansas Power & Light company, a Dixon-Yates combine subsidiary, now are facing a heavy increase in wholesale power rates.

In the Tupelo vicinity they will study the achievements of the nation's oldest rural electric co-operative, Alcorn County Co-operative, established before the federal rural electrification law was passed.

They also will study industrial development gains made through the North Mississippi Industrial Development association. This association is operated by municipal power boards and electric co-operatives of North Mississippi.

At Muscle Shoals Tuesday they will visit the TVA fertilizer plants, laboratories, Wilson dam and Colbert steam plant. In addition they will study the "Cash Crop Every

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In $25,000 Jewel Robbery:

3 Heavily Armed Men Nabbed In Gun Battle

HAZLEHURST, Ga. (AP)—Three heavily armed men who pulled a $25,000 Atlanta jewel robbery, disarmed three officers and shot up 10 automobiles, were captured after a furious gun battle near here today.

Between 12 and 15 shots were exchanged before the gunmen laid down their weapons and gave up in a wooded area, Sheriff E. L. Hatton reported.

One of the men, named by the sheriff as DeWitt Byrd of Jacksonville, Fla., received a flesh wound in the right leg. He was the only one hit in the rain of bullets.

The sheriff said the three had a large amount of jewelry and admitted taking it in an Atlanta robbery yesterday.

He identified the other two as Frank Lore, 32, and Bob Hearsey, 32, believed to be from California.

The gunfight and capture followed a mad escapade of the three when they were halted last night at a road-block near Uvalda, a few miles to the north.

Stopped by officers making a routine drivers license check, they flashed guns and disarmed state troopers L. T. Barlow and E. T. Tillman and Deputy Sheriff Leroy Fountain. They smashed the radios and shot off the tires of two police cars, then walked down a line of cars stopped at the road-block and bullet-punctured thy tires of eight.

Some of the motorists, stopped by chance at the roadblock, fled in terror to nearby woods.

Montgomery County sheriff Claude W. Sharpe said the men left behind parole papers and personal letters indicating that Byrd had been released from California's Folsom Prison in 1954.

The trio left a 1946 model car at the roadblock and departed in a 1955 machine belonging to William Gordon of Uvalda. They parking their luggage in a belonging to a North Carolinian.

They were overtaken and cornered in the woods about five miles east of here several hours later. A posse led by state troopers, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and local lawmen made the capture.

Sheriff Sarpe said it was a miracle that no one was hit by the bullets that ripped the tires from the 10 cars.

He explained that the bandits forced the disarmed lawmen to lie down on the pavement. Gravel splattered into their faces from the bullets.

One of the officers finally asked if he could move from the middle of the highway to avoid any vehicle that might not stop at the block. The trio allowed him to do so.

Hazlehurst is in south Georgia about 200 miles southeast of Atlanta.

Muscle Shoals City's Books To Be Audited

A complete audit of the Muscle Shoals City books as requested by a recent grand jury report will be carried out in the near future, Circuit Solicitor Bryce Graham said yesterday.

Mr. Graham said this morning that after a telephone conversation with the department of public examiners of accounts in Montgomery, he expected representatives of that office to be here early next week.

The audit will be carried out with the consent of the Muscle Shoals city commission. A telegram signed by two of the three commissioners and Mrs. Russell Mills, city clerk, was sent to the state examiners this morning requesting that the audit be made.

The telegram, which bore the signatures of Commissioners Louis Elledge and Jesse F. Homan and Mrs. Mills stated that "all moneys paid out in connection with recent grand jury reports was paid on the advice and consent of our then attorneys."

Consent of the commissioners was obtained, according to reports, through negotiations between Mr. Graham and Muscle Shoals attorney Arthur L. Shaw, after Mr. Graham informed Judge R. Neil Taylor of his intentions of impounding the books for the audit.

On Judge Taylor's suggestion, the commissioners were contacted and arrangements to voluntarily submit the books for audit were made.

Because the audit will take place at an early date, Mr. Graham said this morning, impeachment proceedings against the Muscle Shoals commissioners, also requested in the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Central Labor Union Readies Celebration

A big Labor Day celebration is being planned for the Tri-Cities area by the Tri-Cities Central Labor Union, AFL.

All business firms, civic clubs and local trade unions have been asked to join in the festivities by sponsoring a candidate for Miss Labor Day. Candidates may be married or unmarried and no limitation has been put on the age requirement. However, an entrance fee of $5.00 is being charged which should be sent to the Tri-Cities Central Labor Union along with the name of the candidate.

In addition to the beauty contest, there will be a parade which will begin in Florence and continue through Tuscumbia with a barbecue dinner to be served in the Sheffield Park. The Sheffield swimming pool will be open through Labor Day. An afternoon program of speaking, girl and greased pole contests and a "cash and guinea hen" competition will be presented along with many other special events.

The building being erected at the Sheffield Park to house the food is being donated by organized labor and local business firms. The labor is being contributed by the unionists of the Tri-Cities and the materials by local business firms. These donors will be announced at a later date.

Florence State's Marching Band Looks Promising

Florence State College's marching band is looking forward to a promising year in 1955-56, according to Dr. Wayne Christeson, director.

Many inquiries regarding the band have already been received, Dr. Christeson reported that all prospective band members contact him in advance of the college opening on Sept. 8.

Drum majorettes will be selected early in the school year since the first football game is scheduled for Sept. 17. Two weeks following that will be homecoming and all band members should be in marching trim by that time.

Connecticut Town Spends Night Of Horror

PUTNAM, Conn. (AP)—Ten thousand residents of this northern Connecticut city spent a night of terror as barrels of exploding magnesium floated on flood waters through the business district.

Showers of burning blazing metal 250 feet high, lighted up the city from dusk to dawn, setting more than a half dozen smaller fires in homes and factories in the path of the floods.

Civil Defense authorities said there were no casualties.

The blazing metal poured through the city from a destroyed magnesium plant — the Metal Sellers Corp., where fire broke out early yesterday as flood waters hit the boilers.

Fire burned all day in the three-story plant and magnesium, estimated at 200 tons, began to float away last night.

Refrigerator Is Death Trap For Baby Boy

STEPPVILLE, Ala. (AP)—A large electric refrigerator from which the food had been removed was a death trap yesterday for a baby boy, but his two sisters were revived.

Coroner Grady Moss said Jerry O'Neal Burns, 19 months, died on arrival at a nearby clinic. Catherine Burns, 10, and Elaine, 4, revived when fresh air reached their lungs.

Moss said the children were left at their farm home while the parents worked in a field. He said Terry Odell Burns, twin of the dead boy, apparently closed the door on the three after they crawled inside.

The mother, Mrs. James O. Burns, found them when she noticed the food was out of the refrigerator.

SHE'S 105 YEARS OLD—Nancy B. Allen of Tuscumbia, 105-year-old former slave, thinks that after 105 years, she would like to see her picture in the paper. Born in 1850, Nancy lives with her daughter, Mattie B. Smith. Although her memory has grown short with the years, she still has vague memories of the old days before the War, during which she left her native Tuscumbia for the only time in her life, to "work on Mr. Wilson's place." (Staff Photo).

At The Theatres

SHOALS—"Women's Prison" with Ida Lupino, Howard Duff, Jan Sterling. Cleo Moore Feature 10:35, 12:23, 2:15, 4:05, 5:55, 7:45, 9:35.

PRINCESS — "Stone of Silver Creek" with Buck Jones. Also "Strange Journey" with Paul Kelly.

COLBERT—"Sheriff of Sundown" with Rocky Lane. Also "Devil's Harbor" with Richard Arlen, Greta Gynt.

TUSCUMBIAN—"Khyber Patrol," color with Richard Egan, Dawn Addams. Also "Phantom Stallion" with Rex Allen.

NORWOOD—"The Private War of Major Benson," color, with Charlton Heston, Julie Adams. Feature 1, 3, 5:16, 7:15, 9:26.

JOY LAN—"The Bounty Hunter," color, with Randolph Scott. Also "Lili," color, with Leslie Caron. First show 7:00.

WILSON—"Ten Wanted Men," color with Randolph Scott, Jocelyn Brando. Also "The Steel Cage" with Paul Kelly, Maureen O'Sullivan. Show starts 7:45.

PARK-VUE—"Jack Slade" with Mark Stevens, Dorothy Malone. Also "Secrets in Exile" with Lee Grant and the Bowery Boys.

WHEELER—"The Fighting Lawman" with Wayne Morris. Also "The Diamond" with Dennis O'Keefe, Margaret Sheridan.

Arnold Young Is Named Principal Of Harlan School

Arnold Young has been elected principal of the Sam C. Harlan Elementary School, one of Florence's two new elementary schools, Powell, superintendent of the city schools, announced today. The school is located in the Norwood Park area.

Mr. Young holds a BS degree from FSTC and an MA degree in administration from George Peabody College. He has taught in public schools and has served as principal of elementary and high schools.

For the past year Mr. Young taught in Florence Junior High School.

State Senate Rebuffed:

House Refuses Accept School Plan Amendments

MONTGOMERY (AP) — The Alabama House refused to accept Senate amendments to exempt certain groups from the Goodwin school tax plan before adjourning for the weekend.

The Senate had recommended exemption of insurance companies, banks, production credit and savings and loans associations from the proposed levy on adjusted gross incomes of individuals and corporations.

A conference committee recommended the insurance companies be kept under the tax and that the levy on financial institutions be made conditional on the state being able to collect it on national banks. The House agreed.

But the Senate voted 19-15 a motion to reject the conference committee, and then the matter rests. Legislators ended an overtime session without reaching a final decision.

The administration won a fight to beat a bill to require complete blue book on state purchases. But it was a narrow victory, by only a one-vote margin.

Sens. Albert Lewis of Pickens and Staton Tate of Choctaw County voted against the action. Action was postponed indefinitely by a vote of 16-12.

The House ways and means committee has delayed action on a companion bill by Rep. Pat Boyd of Pike. The hearing is expected next week.

The bill would require bids on all state purchases of $500 or more. Sen. Joe Calvin, of Morgan, sponsor, noted that Gov. James E. Folsom advocated such a law during his gubernatorial campaign.

Sen. Neil Metcalf of Geneva, an administration spokesman, said the purchasing squabble is the same issue which comes up every administration, but that sometimes some times change sides.

The House spent considerable time with the general appropriation bill, and approved a flurry of amendments to increase department spending. Two amendments to trim committee-approved items were defeated.

The bill as approved by the ways and means committee proposes to spend $223,000,000 absolutely and $3,184,000 contingent for fiscal years 1955-56 and $226,620,177 for the following year (the $3,176,000 is the amount available).

The House voted to add between $[illegible] and $[illegible] million to the appropriation in a [illegible]

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DANIEL BOONE
Follow the exciting story of America's greatest pioneer here in the weeks of thrilling story strips beginning