

VIRGINIAN TO BUILD BRANCH TO BLUEFIELD

Stated that the Company Contemplates Line From Ingleside Through the City

TO BE CONTINUED INTO VIRGINIA

Ultimately to Reach the Coal Lands Acquired by Rogers' Estate.

According to what is believed to be a reliable report Bluefield will have two railroads within a year.

There is a rumor afloat today that the Virginian will commence the first of April a preliminary survey from Ingleside, across the N. & W. by truss to the base of the East River mountain, running through the valley on the south side of this city, continuing at the foot of the mountain to Tazewell then into Buchanan and Dickerson counties where it will reach the recently acquired coal lands by the H. H. Roger estate.

It is also expected that a branch line will be run to Berwind in order to reach the territory owned by the Berwind-Whit Coal Company.

It is the opinion of the persons who gave out this report that the Virginian and the C. C. & O. will ultimately combine. It was further stated that the United States Steel Company is quietly jockeying for the purchase of immense tracts of coal lands in Buchanan counties, and will within a few years own all the coal properties on Clinch Valley and in the Pocahontas field.

A well known coal man stated yesterday that the steel trust would own everything in this field within the next year and a boom would start in this district that would last for many years. It is generally believed that there are valuable iron deposits in East River mountain, and these would be tapped by the proposed branch of the Virginian.

EARLY PAY DAY OF N. & W.

The N. & W. payroll of the Pocahontas division for the month of November was sent to the paymaster's office at Roanoke yesterday, and amounted to \$70,000 this is \$500 less than the October pay-roll which was the largest one this year.

DIED SUDDENLY AT WILLIAMSON

A funeral party from Williamson passed through the city this morning, going to East Radford where the remains of J. D. Peters aged 74 will be interred today. Mr. Peters died suddenly last Sunday night at 10 o'clock having been in the best of health previous to his demise. He was a practicing lawyer at Radford for many years but retired several years ago and has made his home with his son J. W. Peters at Williamson. Among the funeral party was D. P. Peters of Portsmouth, Ohio, assistant trainmaster on the Seoto division, and his wife, Mrs. W. P. Pitzer of Huntington and J. W. Peters of Williamson.

RAIN A BLESSING. A report reached here this morning that but for the heavy rain this morning the school today on account of the heavy drought, the immense reservoir near the school being entirely dry and no way to get water.

OFFICERS OF FUEL COMPANY

OFFICIAL DIRECTORATE OF NEW CONCERN ANNOUNCED FOR FIRST TIME TODAY.

The personnel of the newly organized Pocahontas Fuel Company was given out today for the first time. It will include Isaac T. Mann, president; S. S. Thorn, vice-president; T. F. Farrell, general manager, and T. S. Easley, treasurer. J. H. Hardy, who controlled the Pocahontas Fuel Company before the new organization took hold of it has not been appointed as yet but he will be placed in a lucrative position very soon, it is stated. E. A. Parkinson has been assigned the agency of the company at Norfolk and E. J. Howe will have charge of the Cincinnati office.

An office will soon be established in Boston and one will be opened in Chicago the first of the year. The names of the agents in these cities have not been learned.

The tonnage of the new company will be 3,000,000 tons a year, mostly for export trade. This will exceed by a million tons the output of the Pocahontas & Coke Company.

The office force in this city will be greatly increased about the first of the year, the force now being inadequate to carry on the increased business.

WANTS NEW RIVER LOCKED

Pocahontas, Dec. 7.—James G. Litz, who has been appointed to the National River and Harbor Congress, has prepared a bill which he will present to that body and endeavor to have the national congress act upon it this coming session.

Mr. Litz proposes having New river locked as far as Glen Lyn, Va., which is on the state line of the two Virginias and at a point where the Norfolk & Western and Virginian railroads intersect, thus affording water traffic to a vast section of Southern West Virginia and Southwest Virginia.

Mr. Litz has received much encouragement and believes that if he does not get his bill acted upon at this meeting of Congress that it will be at an early day taken up by the national government.

TO PROSECUTE HIS CONTEST

Washington, Dec. 7.—John M. Parsons, of Independence, Va., a member of the Virginia State senate, who was the Republican candidate for Congress in the Fifth Congressional district, has arrived in Washington to prosecute his contest for the seat now held by Representative E. W. Saunders, Democrat.

Senator Parsons declared yesterday that he is confident of being awarded the election certificate by the House of Representatives. He said the contest will probably be referred to the House Election Committee on Wednesday, and he anticipates an early decision in his favor. Upon the face of the returns made by the board of canvassers, Representative Saunders won by 21 majority.

If Senator Parsons is seated, it will have a far-reaching result upon Virginia politics. It will in all probability mean that Judge Saunders will be appointed a member of the Virginia corporation commission to succeed Joseph E. Willard, and that Gov. Swanson, upon his retirement next January as governor of Virginia, will return to his old district, take the Democratic nomination for Congress, and make the fight of his life to redden for Democracy the Fifth district once a Democratic stronghold.

Gov. Swanson always carried the Fifth district by good majority. He is recognized as one of the best campaigners in Virginia, and is very popular in the Fifth district.

WILL OPEN COAL MINE. Cumberland, Md., Dec. 7.—The Merchant Coal Company, which has 5,000 acres of coal lands in Preston County, W. Va., has made arrangements to open a mine near Reidsville.



Leading characters in the great Budget fight, which has plunged England into a political and financial chaos, and which may ultimately result in the elimination of the House of Lords.

In the upper row, beginning at the left, are: Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the author of the Budget; Lord Lansdowns, the leader of the opposition in the House of Lords, who offered the amendment, which provided for a referendum vote in the Budget, and erected the present crisis; and Premier Asquith, who defended the Budget in the House of Commons.

In the lower row, on the left, is ex-Premier Balfour, who led the opponents of the Budget in the House of Commons; and on the right, Lord Rothschild, whose speech was non-committal, but who was counted among the opposition. As one of the world's leading bankers, he will no doubt reap a great harvest in the present crisis, as the Government will have to borrow money to pay the running expenses until a finance bill is passed.

BLIZZARD HITS WINDY CITY

Chicago, Dec. 7.—The first blizzard of the season struck Chicago today. The wind is blowing a terrific gale, and there is a heavy snow fall. Traffic is tied up on all the roads entering the city.

AT EXHIBITION.

Henry Stewart of Russell county, Va., was in the city this morning coming from Chicago where he attended the International Live Stock exhibition last week. Mr. Stewart is the wealthiest cattle owner on the Clinch Valley and owns several large blue grass farms.

SALOONS THE BIG ISSUE

Boston, Dec. 7.—Fourteen Massachusetts cities are holding elections today. The saloon question is the paramount issue in most of them.

Both sides are doing effective work.

GENTLE RAINS ARE WELCOMED

J. Kyle Montague of Christiansburg in speaking of the heavy rain this morning stated it would be welcome at Christiansburg as the town had not the worst drought in the last two weeks it has ever had. Springs that never had gone dry before were dry now, and farmers were reaping a big harvest by hauling water from the springs in the country.

END OF STRIKE NOW IN SIGHT

St. Paul, Dec. 7.—The switchmen's strike here is practically broken. Many switchmen have returned to work and the trains are today running on schedule time.

ESTRADA ROUTS ZELAYA'S ARMY

Port Linton, Dec. 7.—A report reached here today of a fight between Estrada and a part of Zelaya's forces in which the latter were completely routed. Several hundred were killed and wounded.

WASHOUT ON THE C. C. & O.

A report reached here today of a big washout on the C. C. & O. between Dante and St. Paul. Traffic is blocked and the passenger trains did not make connection with the N. & W. trains at St. Paul this morning. A large force of men is at work and a steam shovel has been secured from Johnson City. It is expected traffic will be resumed by night.

MESSAGE OF MR. TAFT READ

LITTLE ENTHUSIASM IS PROVOKED AND NO OTHER BUSINESS IS TRANSACTED.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The President's message was read in both houses today. Little other business was transacted.

The message was a voluminous affair, dealing with the various recommendations which the President has heretofore outlined, and the policies for which he stands. The message was more or less on the stereotyped order, and it failed to elicit any violent opposition.

Congress adjourned today until Friday noon.

J. H. Kirk of Elkhorn is in the city today on business.

NOTED LAND LITIGATION

Huntington, Dec. 7.—On next Sunday C. W. Campbell, of Huntington, and Judge Frank Cox, of Morgantown, representing the state of West Virginia, will go to Washington, where on Tuesday, December 12, they will represent the state in the supreme court, at which time the King land case will be heard before that tribunal.

The defendants will be represented by John G. Carlisle, secretary of the treasury under Grover Cleveland, and Judge Stiles also of New York.

This is the most noted piece of land litigation ever recorded in the courts of the United States, involving more intricate and a vast area of land than any other suit in which an individual has figured as one of the principals.

The lands in question lie in Mingo, McDowell and Wyoming counties, West Virginia, and in Buchanan and other counties of the state of Virginia.

Mr. Campbell has been closely connected with the litigation for ten years, and is one of the best posted men in the country concerning its various phases.

Mr. Campbell will make the opening argument for the state, and Judge Cox, of Morgantown, will close for the state.

WHAT THEY MOST NEED

This evening at the close of Evangelist Rudy's sermon Mr. Galloway who represents the Salvation Army in the work of finding homes for women who have been living lives of shame and sin will give a short talk on what these unfortunate women need most.

The revival at the Christian church continues and there is unabated interest.

J. D. French, who has been on the sick list for several days is out again.



Stella Jones, the Pittsburg girl, who stole for the man she loved and was freed by the court. She pleaded guilty to the embezzlement of \$5,000, but so widespread was the sympathy for her, that money was raised by public subscription and her sentence was suspended. Enter the man for whom she stole, is in the penitentiary.

COUNCIL STABS THE ORDINANCE

BUILDING REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY BOARD OF AFFAIRS GETS IT IN NECK.

Twenty-one members of the council attended the meeting last night at city hall and were treated to one of the best tests of physical endurance to themselves and Temp Akers ever gone through by mortal man, when Temp Akers read the voluminous new building ordinance, on motion of F. J. Brown.

After the reading of the ordinance Mr. Brown states that the stringent rules laid down in the building ordinance were an imposition upon the progressive people of this city, and would naturally prevent the erection of many buildings here.

A vote was taken and the ordinance was vetoed by a vote of 17 to 2; Easley and McArthur voting for it.

J. M. Echols' motion that the permit granted the agies lodge by the board of affairs be vetoed, was lost by a vote of 11 to 7. Dr. Martin and F. J. Brown not voting.

Councilmen Hale, Witten, Borden and Harmon were appointed by the president to wait on the board of affairs at each meeting for a month and report the workings of the board at the council meetings.

On motion of Mr. Witten the meeting hour of the council was changed from 8 p. m. to 7:30 p. m.

TEACHERS TO MEET FRIDAY

The Beaver Pond Teachers' Institute will meet Friday morning in the high school rooms and there will be afternoon and evening sessions. Superintendent Ford and his teachers have arranged an excellent program, and it is expected to have present Waltham T. Barbo, field agent of the State University and L. L. Friend, assistant state superintendent of schools. It is Prof. Ford's idea to make this a sort of opening wedge for a Norfolk and Western teachers' round table, and the teachers from the surrounding country have been invited to attend.

ARTIST HUSBAND KILLS HIMSELF

Washington, Dec. 7.—While his wife and three laughing children stood outside the door of his room in the Grafton Hotel, asking admittance, John R. Souther, an artist, thirty-nine years old, sent a bullet through his head and ended his life shortly before noon yesterday.

Mrs. Souther was Miss Maria Taylor, of Charlottesville, Va.

Hearing the revolver report, which came as the only reply to her repeated calls and shakes of the doorknob, Mrs. Souther became hysterical, and with her frightened and weeping child open clutching at her dress she rushed downstairs for assistance.

When the door, which had been locked and bolted, was broken open by employees of the hotel, Mr. Souther lay on the bed with a bullet wound in his mouth and a revolver in his right hand.

On the bureau in the room by a note, evidently written here and there and nervously, it was addressed to Mrs. Souther and it is understood, contained her husband's frame of mind when he fired the fatal shot.

Concern North, after investigating the circumstances of Mr. Souther's death, and said financial reverses was the only cause known to have provoked the artist's self-destruction. Dr. North said he learned that Mr. Souther, a man always accustomed to unlimited means, lost with financial losses during the busy two years ago, and failing to recover his losses, became dependent and ended his life.

RIOT IN MADISON SQUARE.

New York, Dec. 7.—There was a riot today among the lounges in Madison Square Garden, and many were hurt. One man was shot, and it is thought fatally.

ON NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOUTH

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture About Commercial Possibilities in Dixie

ADDRESS TO THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS

The Blood of the Mountaineer is a Most Valuable Asset

Washington, Dec. 7.—At the second day's session of the Southern Commercial Congress Harvie Lordan of Atlanta president of the Southern Cotton Association, presided, and the leading address of the morning was delivered by Willet M. Hayes, assistant secretary of agriculture on "Neglected Opportunities of the South."

F. W. Foxon of the Memphis, Tenn. Business Men's Club, presided at the afternoon session, and President Lordan will preside at the evening session.

Many of the 5000 or more delegates here to attend the annual meeting of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress which meets tomorrow at attending the meeting.

Assistant Secretary Hayes in his address this morning said in part:

"Big with promise are the opportunities of the Southland, with its genial climate and equally genial people, with its wealth of forest and soil, its buried treasures of mineral and ore, its abounding water power, its noble inheritance of brain and blood. The South is only beginning to awake to the value of her natural endowment and her birthright of privilege and power.

Much of her splendid water power flows to the sea, a total waste of energy that might be harnessed to mills and add brilliantly to her prosperity. Only recently has southern genius, capital and brawn united to draw from the earth rich stores of minerals and use them in developing home industry. Only recently has the South begun officially to develop her coal fields.

"A much more widespread neglect is the productivity of the great area of arable soils. Demonstration farming is showing in a most wonderful way both that the soils are neglected, and that their opportunities can be revived.

"The people of the North, especially the people of the great cities and immigrants from Europe, are neglecting many opportunities offered by the South. The largest neglect is along the line of general farming, but the opportunities for specialized farming are also very large. The northern farmer who has been looking toward the Canadian northwest should investigate the South. The man who wishes to leave the shop or the clerk's counter should investigate southern land opportunities. The immigrant who wishes to plant himself and family where they can earn a farm should look into these opportunities for work and good living, and turn to the open country under sunny skies.

"A Southern Highlander, also, should take his family out on the fertile plains or into the beautiful valleys and plant them among the rich opportunities there.

"The blood of the mountaineer is a most valuable asset to the South, and the South is neglected an opportunity in one leading way of training a still larger part than now of these people for the labor and the land ownership of her rich agricultural region.

"There is also a neglect of opportunities on the part of those who live on the rich plains and in the sunny valleys, and who have not, on the whole, developed really effective systems of farm management."

The Southern Commercial Congress will bring its session to a close tonight. The meeting was a very successful one.

Read the Evening Leader.