

## JAIL HUNGER STRIKE IS BEGUN BY ITALIAN HELD IN ALEXANDRIA

Refuses Food Following Attack With Razor on Policeman; Fears Poison.

## STYLE AND AUTO SHOW PLANNED BY LEGION

Work of Extending King Street Sewer 200 Feet Into River to Start Soon.

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The authorities at the Alexandria city jail are contending with the first hunger strike of which there is any record here. The man, Antonio Vacara, 45 years old, is a native of Italy, and was arrested September 1 by Policeman Wesley Snoots when he appeared to be acting in a suspicious manner. Snoots placed his prisoner in the patrol wagon, and on the way to police headquarters Vacara, it is understood, drew a razor and attacked the officer with it. Vacara was taken to the hospital for treatment.

Acting Police Justice Aylett B. Nicol later held the man for investigation into his mental condition, and a commission of lunacy which examined him recommended that he be removed to the State Hospital for the Insane at Staunton. Vacara, when arraigned in Police Court, failed to identify the officer who arrested him, and seemed to suffer from loss of memory. Since September 1 he has refused all food, and is suffering from hallucinations that someone is trying to poison or kill him.

To increase the embarrassment of the local authorities, City Sergt. R. H. Cox has received a letter from Superintendent De Jarnette, at Staunton, stating that, since Vacara is not a citizen of this State, he is not entitled to treatment at the State institution. An investigation is being conducted to ascertain whether the man is a naturalized citizen, and in the event he is not, the Federal authorities will be asked to deport him to Italy.

Sergt. Cox has used every effort to persuade Vacara to partake of food, but without avail.

Arrangements are being completed for the American Legion Style and Automobile Show which will be given in the armory the week beginning September 26. Styles will be featured by the Stafford Pemberton dancers, and there will be a change of costume each night. Many attractive booths are being arranged, in which the merchants of the city will display their wares.

The district street force started yesterday on the repair of the stretch of road extending south from the Highway Bridge, the road being closed to traffic early yesterday morning.

This road, which is a half-mile in length, has long been a source of annoyance to motorists, and has also been the subject of considerable contention between the authorities of Virginia and the District of Columbia, as to jurisdiction. The Engineer Commissioner of the District, it is understood, finally decided that this formed a portion of the approach to the bridge and as such came under the jurisdiction of the District.

This half-mile stretch of road has figured more than once in a legal controversy. Several years ago an Alexandrian, Morgan Moore, was shot and killed by a negro, just at the southern end of the road. His murderer was captured by the authorities of Arlington County, near Fort Myer, and the question arose as to whether he would be tried in the State or the Federal courts. Before this could be decided it was necessary to survey the road, and the accurate measurements taken then showed the murder to have been committed in territory under the control of the Federal Courts, almost by inches. The negro was later electrocuted.

A number of automobile accidents have occurred on this road, and the motorist who claimed damages from a collision has been unable to find a court to which he could carry his complaint and receive consideration. In one instance the authorities to whom the owner of a machine complained claimed to be without authority to afford him relief, but forbade the removal of the machine until the case should be settled. The car stood in the road for several days and nights, and in some mysterious way almost disintegrated, being stripped of everything portable.

The decision of the District authorities to repair this stretch of road is not generally taken to mean that they assume police authority over it, and the Arlington County authorities have, as in the past, been equally reticent.

The work of extending the King street sewer 200 feet into the river will be started, according to City Manager Morton, as soon as the pile driver, which will be used in the construction, can be placed in position. For several years the property owners along the eastern end of King street, and particularly the Old Dominion Boat Club, have been agitating the question of the extension of this sewer, since, at low tide, the mouth of the present sewer is uncovered and is said to constitute a nuisance.

The last of the season's series of weekly band concerts will be given next Tuesday night by the Engineer Band from Fort Humphreys, at the Alexandria Municipal Swimming Pool grounds.

The swimming pools, which have been reopened for the duration of the warm weather, are attracting an average of 200 patrons daily. The pools are open from 2 until 6 o'clock each day.

Annie Smith, colored, was fined \$250 and \$20.50 costs in police court yesterday, and sentenced to three months in jail, when convicted of a violation of the prohibition law. She was arrested by Policeman Lawrence Padgett, who found several bottles of whisky in her house during a raid August 17. The woman pleaded guilty to the charge.