

Hertford County Herald

HERTFORD COUNTY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER

A PAPER WORTH WHILE

BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN EAST CAROLINA

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One Section

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THE WELL KNOWN CASE OF STATE VS. ROBERSON CAME TO AN END MARCH 28, 1922

ROBERSON MAKES PUBLIC STATEMENT

In Open Court at Gatesville, Roberson Made Public Statement. Begs the Pardon of Dr. and Mrs. L. K. Walker. Minutes of the Court.

When a decision was reached at Gatesville, Tuesday, March 28, 1922 in the case of State vs. J. H. Roberson, who was charged with assault and attempt to commit rape on Mrs. L. K. Walker last August, it ended one of the greatest legal battles in the history of this section; and a case which has given Ahoskie more publicity than anything that ever happened in the city.

Roberson, who has been expelled from the Masonic Lodge at Ahoskie was tried at Gatesville today for the second time, the first trial having resulted in a hung jury.

There was an array of legal talent and witnesses today which almost taxed the seating capacity of the Gatesville courthouse. The case was called at 10 o'clock, but owing to the absence of Attorney Burgwin for the defense the presiding Judge adjourned court until 2:00 o'clock to give Mr. Burgwin a chance to get to Gatesville.

At 2:00 o'clock Judge Bond, presiding, came in the court room and announced there would be a delay of a few minutes at the request of Solicitor Ehringhaus. During the next hour there were no end of surmises as to what was causing the delay and the suspense was awful. The very air was filled with expectation. There was an evident nervousness on the part of all those present as evidenced by the fact that whenever a step was heard in the back of the courtroom, everybody turned his or her head in the hope that it might be the Solicitor and that maybe the show would start.

During this time a part of the legal talent employed by the defense passed the time by amusing the judge, and seemed as much at sea as the others present as to what was going on behind closed doors. It seems they were not taken into the consultation at all.

Finally at about 3 o'clock the Solicitor and the attorneys came into the courtroom, then there was another delay of about ten minutes which seemed like years, when Solicitor Ehringhaus asked permission of his Honor to read a statement. The statement was signed by Roberson, and was to the effect that he admitted saying things he should not have said to Mrs. Walker, was sorry that what he said had never and did not then have any ill feeling towards Dr. or Mrs. Walker, and apologized publicly to Mrs. Walker for any insult she might have taken from his visit or remarks.

After reading the statement, Solicitor Ehringhaus asked permission to add the charge "forcible trespass" that he might strike out the charges of assault with attempt to commit rape and simple assault; and continue judgment of forcible trespass against Roberson until he had paid all costs.

After a short statement by Attorney Matthews for the defense, the Judge agreed to the recommendation of the solicitor and notified the Sheriff that the defendant was in his custody until all costs were paid.

Below is a correct copy of the statement signed by J. H. Roberson, and also the minutes of this case in the Superior Court of Gates county.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT. March Term, 1922.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, County of Gates. State of North Carolina vs. J. H. Roberson, Defendant.

STATEMENT

In the interest of the truth and desiring to clear up many misunderstandings of the past months, I desire to make this voluntary statement.

It is not now, and never has been, my desire or intention to say or to do anything which may reflect upon or be understood as reflecting upon the

character and purity of Mrs. Grace B. Walker. I have no hesitation in saying that I sincerely believe her to be a good and pure woman. I do not and have never believed any suggestion to the contrary, and I regret that anything said or done by me may have been so construed by any one.

I regret as well the unfortunate incident of my visit to the home of Dr. Walker. I had no improper intentions in so going, and am sincerely sorry that my conduct on that occasion was such as to have been so construed. I humbly apologize to her and to Dr. Walker, for any and every word or act which may have been so understood as reflecting on either of them in any manner whatsoever as such was not my intention.

Signed this 28th March, 1922. J. H. ROBERSON.

Witness: J. H. MATTHEWS.

This is a true copy of statement signed by J. H. Roberson in the Superior Court of Gates County.

WM. R. COWPER, Clerk of Superior Court.

MINUTES SUPERIOR COURT March Term, 1922

NORTH CAROLINA—Gates County. STATE vs. J. H. ROBERSON.

In this case the defendant is adjudged not guilty of assault with intent.

The defendant is also adjudged not guilty of assault upon Mrs. Walker.

The defendant enters a plea of nolo contendere to charge of forcible trespass upon the premise of Dr. Walker as charged by the amendment to indictment. Upon statement filed the judgment is suspended in payment of costs.

This is a true copy of the Superior Court Minutes in case of State vs. J. H. Roberson.

WM. R. COWPER, Clerk Superior Court.

COLERAINE PARENT-TEACHERS MEETING

The Parent-Teacher's Association did not have its regular meeting on Friday evening owing to inclement weather, it was held the following Wednesday evening, March 15. We were very much pleased with the attendance of our first meeting and also the excellent papers and talks. A committee of twenty members were appointed to meet with the School Board in Windsor Monday, April 3rd in interest of a new building.

The topic for our next meeting is "Clean-up Week for Coleraine."

1. "The results of a Clean-up Week."—Dr. Smith
2. "Community Pride."—Mrs. Dora Saunders.
3. "How the Parent - Teachers' Association can help in obtaining a new school building."—Mrs. C. B. Morris.
4. "Why Coleraine should have a Modern School School."—Mr. Herbert Early.

Committees will be formed and definite plans made in order to launch clean-up week. We earnestly urge the attendance of the entire community.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

George L. Tessey, a well-known Buffalo mechanic, he had gained twelve pounds; his wife had gained twenty-six pounds and his daughter was gaining every day, by taking Tanlac. C. H. Mitchell. Adv.

NOTICE

On Thursday night, April 6, at 8 o'clock, there will be a play at Center Grove school, "Topsy Turvy." Everybody is cordially invited to attend. Admission 10 and 15 cents.

If you are in need of printing of any kind, send your copy to the Herald office, and you will not only get quick service, but you will be satisfied with the work.

Tanlac relieves rheumatism by removing the cause. A. H. Mitchell. adv.

AS THE FORMER EDITOR SEES WEST VA.

Logan West Virginia is a Peaceful and Progressive Place to Live, Says the Former Editor of The Herald.

BY J. ROY PARKER

Three weeks of association with West Virginians and daily contact with the people who make up the city of Logan, heralded by many as "bad men's" domain, and the refuge of gunners and such like, has failed to verify a sort of strange, uneasy feeling that lingered with me before coming here, and while anticipating the change from peaceful Eastern North Carolina. The ordinary "man on the street" of Ahoskie and other towns in that section breathed sighs of pity for the foolhardy person who would venture out into the coal mining section of West Virginia; there was a vision of semi-savagery and an utter lack of the finer elements of civilization, in contemplating the whatness of Logan—whatever that means.

Logan, although in population it does not rank as a city in the strictest terms, presents every appearance of the small hustling city. Its population is as cosmopolitan as the largest metropolis; business houses here, that is many of them, are branches of the larger city firms of West Va. and Ohio and Kentucky cities. There is a small percentage of foreign population, although not quite so large as might be expected. Many of the residents of the city are newcomers, who follow prosperity wherever it leads—and there is no doubt about Logan and Logan county standing ahead of the average section in the matter of general prosperity.

The opportunity for gain is greater here than in other sections of the country. Business is moving along at a rapid pace; and there is practically no signs of depression.

Logan is situated about seventy five miles from Huntington, possibly the largest city in West Virginia; on the Guyan Valley Division of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, which traverses much of the West Virginia coal regions. Like all other towns on this railroad, which is of approximately 100 miles length, Logan is built in a valley, with high hills and mountains rising high up on either side. The Guyanotte river courses down the valley, the railroad being constructed all the way parallel with the stream. In width the town is necessarily restricted in area on account of the inaccessibility of the hills that hedge in each side. By reason of the topography the town has been built in length, and now that the end has been reached and another mountain has to be "bucked," Logan people are wondering where they are going to find more space which is badly needed for the rapid expansion of the city. The business interests are taking advantage of the only method left; they are building up into the air. Skyscrapers are taking the places of the two and three-story houses.

Conditions among the miners of this section are better, perhaps than those surrounding any other coal mining section in the country. Since the first rail was laid in this region, in 1904, there has never been any labor troubles to mar the relation between miners and operators. The first and only trouble ever experienced was the armed invasion of last August, when hordes of union miners from other surrounding counties armed themselves to the teeth and attempted to march into Logan county, for the purposes of fomenting trouble among the miners. The attempted invasion was repulsed by the armed citizenry of Logan and others from counties in sympathy with them. Everybody in Logan went armed with pistols, rifles and guns for several days last fall, and in a pitched battle with the invaders killed scores of them, with a loss to themselves of five men.

I have entered upon a "career" since coming to Logan. A bunch of "stage struck" young ladies and men have recently organized a "School of Dramatic Arts" here; and rehearsals have been under way for several weeks on four or five comedies. The troupe to which I belong will perform for the first time tomorrow, Saturday night, March 25th. The initial performance will be given at a town twenty miles distant from here. The

UNPAID TAXES AND UNPAID TEACHERS

Tax Payers Are Urged to Pay Taxes so That Local School Teachers Salaries Can Be Paid

My Dear Mr. Editor:

I would consider it a very great favor, should you be able to find space in your valuable paper to print a few lines relating to a very important subject; one which is the concern of every taxpayer in the community, that is the payment of salaries past due the teachers in the Ahoskie school.

It is my understanding that the salaries of most if not all of the teachers, are past due and have been for some time, and when a certain member of the school board is interviewed by the teachers regarding the payment of money due them, that he is inclined to treat it as a joke. Now I may not possess as keen a sense of humor as some of our leading citizens, but I certainly fail to see anything funny in keeping our teachers waiting for their money. It is bad, very bad, for the teachers to have to submit to the embarrassment of but surely they should at least be asking for what is rightfully theirs, dealt with in a business-like manner, and be told definitely when they might expect their pay. If the school trustees should make a contract with a man to do a certain job, when that job was finished, they would expect to pay the man, or make some satisfactory arrangement with him. Now the contract between the school trustees and the teacher is a business one entirely, and should be treated as such.

Most of these teachers are away from home and then their salaries are not paid, it tends to work at least an inconvenience on them, besides it would, indeed, be unsavory advertising for the town to have these teachers leave without their pay and have to admit to their friends that they had fulfilled their part of the contract but the school trustees had failed to do likewise.

I sincerely trust that a way may be found to pay the teachers in full at an early date, or the time is not long hence when it will be a very difficult matter to secure 'competent teachers for our schools here.

A Subscriber, R. B. TAYLOR.

WINTON HOME CHATAUQUA

Under the auspices of the Betterment Association a first class Chataqua will be given by home talent in the Winton High School Auditorium on the nights of April 5, 6, and 7. So far as we know this is the first venture of its kind in the county and it is thought it will provide both ample information and excellent entertainment.

Each night has a special feature. On the first night, Wednesday April 5th there will be a lecture by Rev. J. L. Saunders on "Christian Education." This will be followed by several selections of ragtime music, popular songs, readings, and a side splitting farce—"Mrs. Jones' Afternoon Tea."

The program for the second night consists of a lecture on "Community Building" by Mrs. Jane McKimmon of Raleigh. Following this there will be a number of interesting tableaux, classical songs, music and select readings.

On the last night which will be the climax, there will be staged a live western play "Prairie Rose". A particular amount of effort is being spent on this feature.

Both single and season tickets will be placed on sale at all nearby towns. The latter may be procured at the very reasonable price of one dollar each and are transferable.

The Club women are enthusiastic over this undertaking and hope to make this first Home Chataqua a great event in Hertford county. entire troupe is playing as professional—no "home talent" stuff. After tomorrow night's performance, the play players and all incorporators of the "Dramatic School" may have different ideas about the rosy future of the troupes.

STATE NEWS IN DIGEST COMPILED FOR READERS OF THE HERTFORD COUNTY HERALD

A. E. Addeholt, a farmer of near Nashville, was burned to death Sunday morning, as a result of a "home-brew" outfit, operated by him, exploding, setting the house on fire, and burning the operator of the still to a crisp. His wife and children escaped, they having discovered the flames in time to save their lives.

Health officers of Carbarus county are unusually active in their efforts to stamp out an epidemic of smallpox now rampant in that county.

Members of the Guilford county Farm Bureau are making strenuous efforts to eradicate the cattle tick, and especially tubercular cattle, as means of direct betterment in regards to farming in their county, and have pledged a liberal appropriation to carry on this work.

The Eastern Carolina Automobile Show, an annual affair in Rock Mount for the past three years, will be continued this year, the dates being set as May 1-2-3-4-5. A bigger and better show in every respect is expected this year.

Subscription dances are a thing of the past in Hamlet, for a time, at least, the authorities say, on account of the disorderly conduct engaged in at several recent dances in that town.

"Cycloe Mack," the noted evangelist, delivered an address to the Odd Fellows of Winston-Salem on Wednesday night.

Harry Shuford, of Gastonia, was found dead in his bed at the Carrol Hotel in Bessemer City Saturday morning. The verdict of the coroner was at first suicide, but later developments seem to prove that he was the victim of murder.

Over 500 women attended the 32nd Annual Convention of the North Carolina Women's Baptist Missionary Union, held in Charlotte this week.

Chief of Police D. B. Brown, while raiding a still operated by Mac McKay, near Laurinburg Sunday, killed McKay, who attempted to escape. Brown, the officer, was exonerated by a coroner's jury.

The Centennial Anniversary of St. Phillip's (Moravian) church, of Winston-Salem, was held Sunday, with a large attendance. Much interesting history is connected with this church.

The North Carolina Conference for Social Welfare, in its tenth annual session at Greensboro Tuesday, paid tribute to the memory of the late Governor Thomas W. Bickett. Dr. E. C. Brooks, delivered the message.

Miss Jane Adams, noted settlement worker, delivered an address at Greensboro to the social workers of that city, Wednesday night.

The Mount Mitchell Development Company has nearly completed the Mount Mitchell Motor road, leading to the summit of that famous peak, it was announced by the manager this week. The road will be open to the public by June 15.

J. Alexander Beall, prominent New York lawyer, who visited Greensboro Tuesday, stated that he found Greensboro to be an unusually well-kept progressive Southern city, which should serve as an example to other Southern towns, in the matter of municipal improvement.

The Rocky Mount Tar Heels, of last season's fame, has been in training for some time, and will be in fine trim for the incoming season of baseball. Manager Walker stated Tuesday. This team is expected to show some "real stuff" along the baseball line this season.

More than 200 new members were received in the Baptist churches of Greensboro, as a result of the revival services held in that city recently.

The churches in and around Taylorsville, following in the wake of the schools, have closed services, on account of the unusual severity of the "flu" epidemic in that part of the state.

Latta Massey, a wealthy farmer of Lincolnton, committed suicide with a

kitchen knife Monday. It was thought to be a case of premeditated suicide, he having acted strangely for several days previous. Mr. Massey was well known in that locality, as a prominent farmer and citizen.

Bob Williams, a negro bandit, who has terrorized villages in Brunswick county for the past few weeks, was captured Sunday after a thrilling chase in which sheriff's posse from two counties, a cordon of city police, and a detachment of National Guardsmen took part. He is now in a Wilmington hospital, recovering.

J. C. Plonk, retired cotton manufacturer of Hickory, has made a gift of \$110.00 to the Rutherford hospital, as a memorial to his wife. The money will be used in adding a radium equipment to the hospital, and for other general improvement, it was announced by the management.

Mrs. B. R. Howard, of Fayetteville, died from pneumonia, following "flu", Monday. This is the second sudden death resulting from this cause in Fayetteville since the outbreak of the epidemic.

W. C. Woodward, prominent and widely known citizen of Roanoke, died at his home in that city Tuesday after a prolonged illness, resulting from many complicated diseases. Mr. Woodward was widely known throughout the entire state.

The libel suit of Henry E. Williams for \$100,000 damages against the Park Publishing Company of Fayetteville is now nearing a close, after much dissensions among the jury. The suit grew out of articles published in the News and Observer during the administration of the city affairs in 1920.

Governor Morrison, after spending Wednesday cruising on the waters of Pamlico Sound, spent Wednesday night in Manteo, en route to Edenton, where the citizens of that town will stage a reception in his honor.

The combined resources of the 14 banks in Mecklenburg county reach the grand total of \$34,683,951.42; according to reports made by certified public accountants of that county at the close of business, March 10, 1922. This is in excess of that of any other county in the entire state.

The Brahmton school district, the largest in Durham county, voted a special school tax of twenty-five cents on the \$100 property Wednesday, for the purpose of giving the school an eight month's term.

The Republican State Convention will be held in Winston-Salem on Apr. 12th. The Chamber of Commerce, combined with the Republican executive committee, will stage ample entertainment for the occasion.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1922

The following rules will become effective April 1st, 1922.

1. All legal advertisements must be paid for after the first insertion, or the advertisements will be discontinued the second week. This applies to every body regardless of how much he is worth or how poor he is.
2. All resolutions of respect and obituaries will be charged at the rate of five cents per line. Running six words to the line on an average. Payable in advance.
3. All classified advertisements must be paid for in advance at the following rate: ten cents per line for the first week and five cents per line per week thereafter.

The above rules are made to eliminate so many small and old accounts.

JAMES S. VINSON, Managing Editor.

USE THE WANT AD COLUMN—

If you have something to sell or if you want to buy something, the small classified advertisement, at a very small cost, will do the work for you. Try the HERALD.