

Rutherford County Offers Unequaled Opportunities To Manufacturers and Others

FOREST CITY COURIER

12 Pages

FOREST CITY—"ONE OF THE TEN BEST PLANNED AND MOST BEAUTIFUL CITIES IN THE U. S. A." U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SURVEY.

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Chief Price Slain While Making Arrest

City Shocked Over Brutal Killing of Popular Officer

FALLS SATURDAY NIGHT IN DISCHARGE OF DUTY

Austin A. Price Shot Five Times With Own Gun After Being Fatally Cut in Back With Pocket Knife—Prisoner Carried to Rutherfordton For Safe Keeping.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ATTEND FUNERAL SERVICES

Never has this community been as shocked as it was early Sunday morning when word was flashed back and forth that Forest City's popular and efficient Chief of Police, Austin A. Price, had been killed in the discharge of his duty. Hundreds of people gathered at the scene of the brutal killing, where shocked and horrified, they tried to realize the terrible tragedy that had taken place. No police officer has ever had more love and respect than that which was held for Chief Price by the people of this city, and the needless killing of this man has shocked and stirred the wrath of the entire county as no other thing has ever done.

The killing of Chief Price took place at 11:50 Saturday night, while he was discharging his duties as an officer of the law. He had just made an arrest and while on the way to the city jail, his prisoner, Fred Smart, turned on him and committed the deed. The least that could be said of Austin A. Price is that he fell in the line of duty.

The tragedy took place after Mr. Price had arrested Fred Smart, of this city, on a charge of drunkenness. Mr. Smart had already been asked, it is said, to go home as he was said to have been drunk and had no business up town. When he failed to go home, Chief Price arrested him on a charge of drunkenness and started toward the city jail with him.

Had Befriended Smart. For more than a year, at one time, Mr. Price and Mr. Smart had lived next door to each other and since Mrs. Smart's death, Mrs. Price had been making clothes on different occasions for Mr. Smart's motherless children. Mr. Price had also helped Mr. Smart all he could, only last week giving him a job to remodel his house. In view of this, Chief Price evidently considered Smart a friend of his, for as they started toward the jail he failed to search his prisoner as is customary.

Uses Knife. They had almost crossed the lot above Stein's Department Store on their way to the city hall, when Smart suddenly cut Mr. Price across the back with a pocket knife. The knife had a curved blade several inches long. A gaping wound was made in the Chief's back on one hip to the other, the knife penetrating the kidney and liver. According to doctors this would have proven fatal.

Fires Into Prostrate Officer. As he fell to the ground Chief Price managed to call for help. Smart it is said, then reached down and, taking the prostrate man's gun from its holster, fired five bullets into the body, one entering the heart. T. E. Green, night policeman, who had seen Mr. Price make the arrest had driven around to the city hall in the police car to assist in putting the prisoner in jail. It was while getting out of the car that he heard the call for help. Going to the stricken officer, with the aid of several eye witnesses to the killing, he arrested Smart and placed him in the city jail.

No Inquest Necessary. In the meantime ambulances had been called, the Padgett & King ambulance reaching the scene first. Mr. Price had been killed almost instantly, however, and placing a sheet over his body the coroner was summoned. As there were several eye witnesses to the tragedy an inquest was deemed unnecessary and the body was removed to Padgett & King's undertaking establishment.

Prisoner Rushed to Rutherfordton. Excitement ran riot over the killing and as the crowd around the city hall grew, feeling against Smart mounted, until it was finally decided to move him to the county jail at Rutherfordton for safe keeping. One of the bullets fired at Price, in some

Hearing Friday For Slayer Of Policeman

A preliminary hearing for Fred Smart, slayer of Chief A. A. Price, will be held Friday in the Recorder's court. Smart made the following statement Monday: "I knew at the time that I killed Price. It was not premeditated and I am now sorry of it. I have had no trouble with Price—we were neighbors."

When asked why he killed Price, Smart did not answer. He stated that he was going to employ a lawyer soon and ask for bond. Smart seemed worried over his left foot which has a bullet hole through it.

Smart was 43 years old Wednesday. He is the youngest son of the late Blackburn Smart of this county and has two brothers in Forest City, Lee and Ed Smart. His wife is dead. He has two daughters and a son.

When Smart was asked if he had a high temper he smilingly replied, "I think not. I usually control myself."

manner, glanced and struck the prisoner in the foot.

Much credit goes to Garret M. Edwards, county traffic officer, for his efficient handling of the crowd in front of the jail here prior to taking the prisoner to Rutherfordton. The crowd had grown to a large proportion during the time the prisoner's foot was being dressed and it was only after talking to the crowd for some time that an opening was made to the police car, in which Smart was carried to the county jail.

Thousands View Body. Body of the slain officer lay in state at the Padgett & King funeral parlor here. Approximately eight thousand people from almost every section of the county, as well as from several adjoining counties, passed before the bier of the slain officer to pay their last respects.

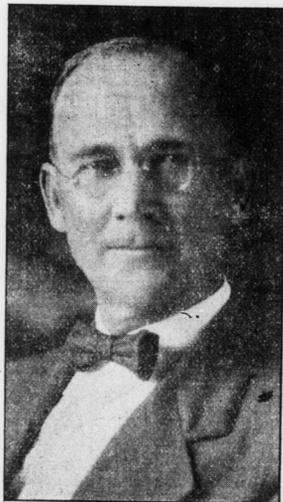
Local Funeral Services. A short funeral service for Mr. Price was held in the First Methodist church here Monday morning at 9 o'clock, after which the body was taken to Stony Point, where services were held from the Methodist church of that place at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon. The service here was in charge of Rev. J. W. Williams, pastor.

Mr. Mooneyham's Tribute. Attorney O. J. Mooneyham, of Avondale, who had on various occasions been associated with Mr. Price (Continued On Page Four)

"HOME COMING DAY" AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY

Annual Event Will Also Mark Ninth Year of Pastorate of Dr. W. A. Ayers.

"Home Coming Day" will be observed by the First Baptist church of this city on next Sunday morning. The occasion will also mark the beginning of the ninth year of the



DR. W. A. AYERS.

and with the desire that the entire membership, together with as many former members as possible, be assembled at least once a year, the church voted two years ago to make this an annual event.

During the eight years that Dr. Ayers has served this church as pastor the membership has grown from 450 in 1923 to 750 at the present time, an increase of 300.

Many great things have been accomplished by the church under his guidance. The parsonage, which would do credit to any church in the state, was completed in 1923. The Sunday school building, which is complete with every modern convenience and has a capacity for 900 students, was completed in 1927. The Sunday school is presided over by E. E. Smart, general superintendent, who is assisted by 92 officers and teachers.

The Sunday school is not the only active church organization, however. There are three live B. Y. P. U.'s in this church, all of which are under the direction of Charles Z. Flack. The women's organizations are doing a great work in this church. This work is in charge of Mrs. W. A. Ayers, who is ably assisted by several associates.

Dr. Ayers is in great demand as an evangelist, having held many meetings in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. Since being ordained as a minister of the gospel he has held 227 revival meetings. He has baptised about three thousand people. Dr. Ayers has served as pastor in the following churches: College Hill Baptist church Lynchburg, Va.; First Baptist church Newport News, Va.; and in North Carolina he has served churches at Durham, New Bern and Forest City. He attended school at Wake Forest and the Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky. In the summer of 1922 the pastorate of Dr. W. A. Ayers, and in honor of his many years of service

cleaning up the debris after it was over.

Now please understand me, folks. This is not addressed to those who have written me indicating their desire for a radio broadcast during which I would read news from The Courier. But if there are those who are interested in such a program—and haven't yet written to me—I again ask them to do so at once. Frankly, I need your help. So forget about writing to your congressman for the once, and pen me that missive today, care of The Courier.

FOREST CITY MAN KILLED IN RUSSIA

Mr. Yates Hill Accidentally Killed on Construction Job in Siberia Thursday.

Mr. Yates Hill, aged 39 years, an engineer for the Fiery Engineering Corporation, of Kuznetsk, Siberia, United States of Soviet Russia, was instantly killed Thursday when a heavily loaded cable, or wire broke. Mr. Hill is a native of Forest City, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Gaston Hill, of this city.

Details of his death are meagre. He was employed by one of the largest engineering corporations in Soviet Russia. A cablegram to his father here stated that he was killed by a heavily loaded wire, which, at first gave the impression that he was electrocuted, but it is believed by the family that a heavy wire cable broke, crushing him.

Mr. Hill is survived by his widow, who before her marriage was Miss Della Ellis, of Logan, W. Va., and 3 children, Lorene, Olin and Priscilla. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Hill reside here. The following brothers and sisters survive him: Rev. J. W. P. Hill of New Prospect, S. C.; Mrs. L. D. Shytle, Spindale; Mrs. E. W. Young, of Hattiesburg, Miss.; Mrs. Colon Lawrence, of Forest City; Mrs. Earl Harrill, of Wadesboro, N. C.; Roswell Hill, of Hattiesburg, Miss.; Miss May Hill and J. C. Hill, at home. Two sisters preceded him to the grave.

Mrs. Hill, who has been making her home here until two weeks ago, is now at her home in Logan, W. Va. She has information that her husband's body will arrive in Logan, W. Va., about June 30. Funeral arrangements are held up pending the arrival of the body.

Mr. Hill had only been in Russia six months. He signed up last Christmas with the Soviet government for two years stay at \$6000 per year and free transportation. He went to Russia in January.

Mr. Hill was regarded as an engineer of outstanding ability. He left Forest City in 1916, and since that time had been connected with a number of large construction corporations in the United States. Prior to going to Russia he was connected with the American Construction Company, of Chicago. Being an expert in the engineering line resulted in his selection as one of the foremen of the Fiery Engineering Corporation.

Mr. Hill was a member of the First Baptist church, of this city.

NEW CITIZENS IN FOREST CITY

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie T. Meares announce the birth of a 9 1/4 pound son, Joseph Adams, born Saturday, June 6th.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Dorsey announce the birth of a 9 1/4 pound son, Robert Douglas Dorsey, born Saturday, June 6th.

Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Jones are receiving congratulations over the arrival of a 9 1/4 pound son, Robert Aiden Jones, born Monday, June 8th.

Miss Dorothy Bostic had as her house guest last week Miss Lillian Mabrey, of Spartanburg.

degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him.

Elected by the Southern Baptist convention as a member of the board of trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute, of New Orleans, Dr. Ayers is also a trustee of the following institutions: Meredith college, Raleigh; Alexander Home for Motherless Children, Union Mills; Boiling Springs Junior college, Boiling Springs. He was elected a trustee of Meredith college by the Baptist State convention.

all the members, the former members and friends of the First Baptist church to attend the services next Sunday morning.

On account of the revival at the Methodist church there will be no services Sunday night.

SLAIN OFFICER



Chief Austin A. Price, head of the Forest City police department, who was slain Saturday night by Fred Smart, a prisoner.

Police Officials From Many Cities Attend Chief Price's Funeral

A number of police chiefs, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials attended and participated in the funeral of Chief Austin Price. A number of patrolmen from Mecklenburg county, and from the City of Charlotte police department attended, also from the Asheville, Gastonia and Winston-Salem police departments. Other police officials attending were:

Chief Wooten, of Winston-Salem; Chief Taubert, president of N. C. Police Chiefs Association, Lexington; Chief Rankin, Salisbury; Chief Messer, Asheville; Chief Elliotte, Gastonia; Chief Allen, Kings Mountain; Chief Poston, Shelby; Chief Lentz, Hickory; Chief Roberson, Newton; Chief Dover, Lenoir; Chief Kerr, Statesville; Chief Police, Morganton; Sheriff Welch, Caldwell county; Sheriff Kimble, Iredell county; Sheriff Robnette, Alexander county; Sheriff O. D. Barrs, Catawba county; Lieut. Beck, State Patrol, had charge funeral procession, Marion; Chief Pitman, Charlotte; Chief Earnhart, Mooresville; L. A. Thomas, Capt. Detectives, Southern Ry., Washington Division, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Price received telegrams of sympathy from the Chief of Police of Washington, D. C.; and from I. A. Gerk, chief of police and president of the International Police Chiefs Association, of St. Louis, Mo.

MR. W. F. TONEY IS ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. W. F. Toney, deputy sheriff in this township, has been appointed acting chief of police, pending the appointment of a regular chief or day man. Mr. T. F. Green continues as night officer. The regular meeting of the city board will be held Friday evening, and it is likely that a permanent appointment will be made at that time.

TWO NEW DAIRIES ADDED TO GRADE "A" LIST

Two new dairies supplying milk to Forest City have met all the sanitary requirements of the State Board of Health, and were this week added to grade "A" list. These dairies are those of Mr. J. T. Camp and Mr. Ed Thompson.

Views of Our News by CHICAGOAN. LAST WEEK'S NEWS REVIEWED BY A STRANGER IN THE WINDY CITY.

Chicago, Ill., June 9.—To learn the comings and goings, the births the weddings, and (in a whisper) the divorces and of the bargains offered by advertising merchants, thousands turn the pages of The Courier each week. Most of them realize how vital a part of the community's life the paper is; only a few accept its publication as a matter of course and would miss it only after it had ceased to appear. If you haven't paid up your subscription you know who I am talking about in that last breath.

Mrs. Sarah Love needed but little help to start her on her long journey to New York where she joined Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Love, before sailing for Bermuda. She will carry with her a load of good cheer, and will impart welcome intimate news of friends to the old acquaintances she meets on their trip. And she will make new friendships, too, gladdening the hearts of many who have not known the good Cliffside woman heretofore.

Well, it wasn't Grouchy Gus, or any local character like him who was responsible for so many coming to town last week to do their shopping. But there is better than good reason to believe that some of the visitors made the trip to Forest City instead of going elsewhere, because they read The Courier in which they found the advertisements of the most progressive merchants. And don't you see how good advertisers help toward building up a town? Forest City should extend to its leading merchants a vote of thanks.

Out Golden Valley way, says our correspondent, crops are looking a little sick. The sun and the rain have failed to do their share toward bringing forth a bountiful yield and the recent storm did much damage. But the Golden Valley farmers have let no opportunity pass them by. Yet they are asking: "What will the harvest be?" Their question is echoed in the minds of people everywhere.

Off to Atlanta, Ga., went Mr. Lee Stein last week, so the local news told, there to transact some business, to visit a bit with neighbors of yesterday, and to inhale some of the atmosphere of the big city. He had a pleasant time, all around, but I'll warrant he was glad to get back to Forest City. Traffic jams, the clang of the trolley cars; the honking of motor horns; the pushing and crowding of inconsiderate throngs on the streets. The public eating places that charge so much for food and service—and put forth so little of either. Yes, the big city may be exciting, but when Mr. Stein came home he was less enthusiastic about certain plans to convert Forest City into a metropolis. Some losses, as well as some gains, would result from such a transaction.

How different characteristics in people are sometimes revealed can be told by Miss Helen Thomas and the friends she entertained at a picnic at Hillside Gardens, Lake Lure. As soon as they arrived at the scene of the happy gathering, some of the party set about preparing a fire, or arranging food, or carrying water, or otherwise making things comfortable for the rest. Then there were a few who were willing enough, but who did not have the ability to adapt themselves to unfamiliar surroundings. Don't tell me that there were any present who deliberately shirked the work connected with the preparation of the repast, or that of