

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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NEEDLEMAN CASE ENDED WEDNESDAY

Defendants Convicted. Twenty One Pleaded Guilty of Being Accessories.

WILLIAMSTON, May 12.—The final chapter in the Martin county mob cases will be written here tomorrow when Judge N. A. Sinclair will pass sentence on Henry Dennis Griffin, Julian Bullock and F. W. Sparrow, Sr., convicted this evening of performing an operation on Joseph A. Needleman, tobacco salesman, on Sunday morning, March 29. At the same time 21 other defendants, who have previously pleaded guilty to being accessories to the fact, will be sentenced.

Tom Lilly, one of the alleged accessories, lies at the point of death as the result of a self inflicted gunshot wound in the forehead and J. T. Smithwick, another alleged accessory, is ill with pneumonia.

Those pleaded guilty to the accessory charge, and who will be sentenced tomorrow are:

Edgar Johnson, Lester Edmondson, Tom Harrell, L. A. Croom, Louis Johnson, James H. Gray, Grady Smith, John Gray Corey, Jim Horton Coltrain, Alfred P. Griffin, Albert Gurkin, Clarence Gurkin, Clarence Gurkin, Allen Griffin, Ben Lilly, Sherwood Roberson, John A. Griffin, Hubert Griffin, E. C. Stone, John Gurkin and Roy Gray.

Solicitor Don Gilliam announced tonight that the state will move dismissal of the indictment charging Needleman with attacking a young Martin county girl, upon which he was to have been brought to trial when the present cases were concluded. It was on this charge that he was being held in the county jail here when he was seized by the mob.

Men Get Long Sentences.

Williamston, May 13th—Dennis Griffin got thirty years in the penitentiary for his part in the attack on Needleman. Other ringleaders, the two Sparrows and Julian Bullock, got not more than ten and not less than six years. Claro Heath got from two to three years and Elder C. E. Stone got the same. Johnnie Gurkin for giving information on the others got off with eighteen months. Several other defendants who had but little to do with the crime were let off with fines of \$500 each. Two defendants are very sick and could not be tried. The charge of rape against Needleman has been dismissed.

NEW SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT IS EXPERIENCED MAN

As stated in last week's issue of the News the county board of education after a rather lengthy session Thursday elected Mr. J. H. Workman superintendent of rural schools. His salary was fixed at \$3,000 and his expenses are allowed. Miss Ruth Townsend was unanimously elected rural school supervisor for the coming year at the salary provided in the State salary schedule.

For several years Mr. Workman has had charge of the rural schools of Green county. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and has had the benefit of special instruction for teachers at Columbia University. The county board had some forty or more applications for the position of county superintendent. Last Thursday the contest narrowed down to five names and after considerable discussion and six ballots Mr. Workman was chosen. He will enter upon his new duties July the first.

MOVED INTO NEW HOME.

Mr. and Mrs. James V. Caffrey moved into their attractive new home on Ann street last Saturday. The house which is of the bungalow type is very pretty and thoroughly modern and comfortable in every respect.

Judge Walter H. Neal of Laurinburg and Mr. Ben Neal of Savannah, Georgia spent several days here this week on account of the illness of their brother Mr. Jack Neal.

SPORTSMEN HAVE SOME VERY GOOD LUCK

Sportsmen from up the State who have come down on fishing trips recently have been meeting with considerable success. For the most part the weather has been very fine and the fish have been biting pretty well. Messrs. A. H. Graf and P. B. Beard two veteran fishermen of Salisbury, have been out several times recently and have had very good luck. Last Saturday accompanied by E. L. Hardin, also of Salisbury, they went out to the Thistleroy wreck near Cape Lookout and made a fine catch of trout and sheep's head. They took eight sheep's head that weighed from eight to ten pounds each and a fine lot of trout, one of which weighed eight pounds. Their fun was broken up though when a school of porpoises arrived and put the trout to flight.

POPULAR CITIZEN DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS.

After an illness that had lasted for more than six months Mr. John Hughes Neal died last night at eleven o'clock at his home on Ann street. He would have been fifty four years old at his next birthday. All the members of the immediate family were present as also were his brothers, Mr. Ben Neal of Savannah, Ga. and Judge Walter H. Neal of Laurinburg. A nephew Mr. David Bell of Washington has also been here for several days. The funeral services took place this afternoon at Ann street Methodist church of which the deceased was a member. The services were conducted by the pastor Reverend E. Frank Lee. The interment was in the Morehead City cemetery.

For many years Captain Jack Neal as he was known to every one, had been a locomotive engineer in the service of the Norfolk and Southern railroad and the old Atlantic and North Carolina road. He was a highly valued employee of the company and was known and liked by a great many people. In early life he married Miss Ollie Bell of Morehead City who with four daughters and two sons and two grandchildren survive him. The children are Mrs. Cecil Truitt, Misses May Belle, Georgia and Clyde, Jack Jr., and Wade. Besides the relatives mentioned, two sisters Mrs. John H. Bell of Washington D. C. and Miss Lizzie Neal also survive.

POLICE COURT ITEMS.

Several persons were tried by Mayor Thomas in his court Monday afternoon. George Fulford for being drunk and disorderly was assessed \$50 and costs or given the option of 30 days on the streets. Aleck Smith charged with the same offence drew the same sentence. Roland Swain, disorderly conduct was let off with the costs, amounting to \$5.15. Gabe Stanley and Luther Fulford, disorderly conduct, to-wit throwing eggs at each other, pay cost or work 10 days on the streets.

ODD FELLOWS MEET IN GREENSBORO SOON

Raleigh, N. C., May 12.—A week hence the Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows will assemble at Greensboro in its 82nd annual session and preparations are in the making for an interesting and profitable meeting. John D. Berry, the Grand Secretary, is advised that members of the Order in the "convention city" are bestirring themselves in perfecting plans for the gathering of their brethren on Tuesday, May 19th. The Grand Secretary is busy, too, getting ready for the event and the end of the week will find his office fully prepared to give an account for itself.

The Grand Lodge will assemble on Tuesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for a business session at which time reports of the committee on credentials will be submitted, the Grand Lodge Degree conferred, standing committees appointed, reports of grand officers received, petitions and resolutions presented and miscellaneous matters considered.

WEST BEAUFORT GOING AHEAD

Building Operations Going On And Many Lots Being Sold

Much activity is in evidence in West Beaufort now and indications are that it will continue for a long time to come. Street work, which has been in progress all winter, is still going on. The dredging outfit belonging to C. W. Hodges, of Norfolk and New Bern, arrived Monday and is at work. Mr. Hodges has a contract for extensive operations. All low places along the shore line of West Beaufort subdivision will be filled and made suitable for drive ways, parks and building purposes. It is planned to have a drive way running entirely around the property which will be fine for motorists.

Some building has started at West Beaufort and reports are that before the summer is gone a very considerable number of houses will have been erected. Contractor George Woodard is building a house for Mrs. Anna M. Richter of Winston-Salem on the back of her lot. This house will be occupied by Mrs. Richter's family this summer and a much larger and handsomer one will be built afterwards. Mr. S. O. Huffman of Winston-Salem has built a temporary structure on his lot and is occupying it. Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Gordes of Winston-Salem for several weeks, have been occupying the house on Charles street built by the company and are very much pleased with West Beaufort. It is probable that they will become permanent residents.

Two car loads of six inch water mains have been bought and as soon as it arrives work will begin laying it. This pipe is to be connected with the water system of Beaufort. Poles for electric lights have been erected on Beaufort Boulevard and will be connected with the Beaufort power plant. The company is planning to erect a number of residences during the summer which they will offer for sale. More than a thousand lots have already been sold in West Beaufort and sales are being made every day. A considerable number of sales has been made to Beaufort people.

SLANDER CASE COMPROMISED.

The slander case involving certain Sea Level folks, referred to in the News last week, was compromised Friday morning. By the terms of the settlement the costs in the case were divided between Mr. Wash Gaskill and Mr. Spencer Lassiter. A statement signed by the defendants was made which set forth the fact that they knew nothing derogatory to the character of Miss Flora Gaskill the prosecuting witness. Several of the defendants were not present for trial Friday having been unable to appear in court. The defendants were Mrs. Tama Jackson, Malancie Hamilton, Polly Lassiter, Sarah A. Gaskill, Lorena Taylor. Attorney E. W. Hill and C. R. Wheatly appeared for the prosecution and J. F. Duncan for the defense.

QUIET MARRIAGE OCCURED.

On Wednesday evening May the 13th, at 8 o'clock, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Noe on Marsh St. this city, there occurred a quiet marriage, the contracting parties being Miss Mabel D. Noe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Noe, and Mr. Edwin Lee Beeton of North-Harlowe. The marriage vows were spoken by Rev. E. Frank Lee, pastor of the bride. The ceremony was witnessed by a small number of near relatives and intimate friends of Mr. and Mrs. Beeton.

FEDERAL PRISONERS HERE.

Five white men who were convicted in the recent term of Federal court at New Bern of illicit distilling are serving their sentences in the Carteret county jail. They drew sentences of from three to four months each. The men are John Davis, Perry Tindall, William Jones, Ned Thigpen and Eill Meekins.

STATE NEWS

Items Of Interest From Various Parts of North Carolina

The \$10,000 prize at the Charlotte automobile races Monday was won by Earl Cooper. Tommy Milton who won first prize last year finished third and got \$2500. The second prize of \$5000 was won by Henry Hartz. A crowd estimated at from forty to fifty thousand saw the races.

The Caswell Training School at Kinston had a visit last Sunday from a large number of eugenicists, psychiatrists, criminologists and others. These scientists had been holding a convention in Raleigh for several days and went to Kinston on the invitation of Dr. McNairy the superintendent of the school.

The annual convention of the North Carolina master plumbers' association was held last week at Shelby. The convention will meet in Godshoro next year. The association decided to advertise the fact that all work done by its members will be done under a guarantee.

On last Thursday three negro children were burned to death at their home near Fairmont. The oldest was six years old. Jerry Stackhouse, their father, and his wife were at work in the fields when the fire occurred.

Since getting a new hotel Goldsboro has secured several conventions for next year. The Travellers' Protective Association is to meet there and three or four other organizations have decided to go there.

Henry Singleton, a young negro from Craven county, was electrocuted at the State penitentiary last Friday. It took three shots to kill him. Several months ago Singleton murdered and robbed Henry N. Banks foreman of a logging camp.

At their meeting Monday the commissioners of Craven county sold \$375,000 worth of bonds at a premium of \$18,900. The bonds were sold to provide funds to retire old debts.

Charged with murder committed six years ago Furman Bailey was given a preliminary hearing at Oxford last week. Bailey had been living in Texas since the murder was committed but was found and brought back for trial.

FISH MUST BE CONSERVED; PRICE RAPIDLY ADVANCES

Washington, D. C., May —Governors of the coast states from Maine to Texas have been invited by Secretary Hoover to a conference to be held in Washington on May 22 to consider the question of conserving the fish along the Atlantic and Gulf coast.

The catch of certain kinds of the more marketable fish is dwindling every year, it is said, and something must be done to conserve the supply. The secretary points out that a great deal has been accomplished by cooperation and conservation of the salmon industry along the Pacific coast. A sense of national responsibility for the fisheries should be cultivated, Mr. Hoover states, and he points out in his letter that in thirty years the yield of shad along the Atlantic coast has been reduced seventy-five per cent, that of sturgeon eighty-eight per cent, and that of lobster sixty-six per cent. This has meant an increase in the price of shad of 50 per cent, of sturgeon 800 and of lobster 900 per cent.

"Means of rehabilitating these fisheries must be found," Mr. Hoover said. "The problem cannot be solved by any one state alone and any extension of Federal authority is most undesirable. Therefore, it is for our purpose to discuss such provisions as might be made for coordinated state action to these ends. I believe it is possible to work out some basis of interstate action that should serve to preserve these fisheries."

N. C. PEACH CROP LARGE THIS YEAR

Raleigh, N. C.—Indications are that there will be a crop of between 2,200 and 2,400 cars of peaches for shipment from North Carolina this season. In a number of orchards, Elbertas and Hales are weak from being hurt by Bacteriosis last season and now have a light set of fruit. With early fruit and Georgia Belles, the crop set seems to be about normal.

"At any rate the outlook for peaches this year appears to be more promising than last," says George Ross, Chief of the State Division of Markets. "Georgia will probably ship between 8,000 and 10,000 cars; but the crop in the mountain section of Georgia which competes with that from the North Carolina Sandhills appears to be light. South Carolina will ship from 200 to 250 cars and the other peach producing sections which ship about the same time as North Carolina will also have a light crop."

Mr. Ross states that the North Carolina crop is again in strong hands with two widely known marketing agencies handling the selling.

The Division of Markets will this year attempt to start a market for the owner of timber and to supply him with price quotations on all forest products, thus aiding in the effective selling of this important farm product. The forest crop has been called the State's most neglected farm product, though according to the United States Census, it stood sixth in value of all crops.

Poultry and egg shipments continue popular and profitable. During the past week, nearly 50,000 pounds of poultry was sold in carlots at a saving to the farmers cooperating of about five cents per pound over local prices. During the week of April 27, cars will be shipped from Union, Anson, Richmond, Bladen, Robeson, Scotland, Sampson Hoke and Cumberland counties.

Mr. Ross states that cooperative buying by farmers' organizations is now growing in popularity as shown by recent purchases of fertilizer at a saving to those taking part.

NEW COMMISSIONERS SWORN INTO OFFICE

The old board of commissioners held a meeting Monday night and became the new board in a very few minutes. They were all sworn into office and are now ready for business for the next two years. The only other business transacted was the passage of a motion asking all citizens to co-operate in observing all State, national and local laws. Citizens were also asked to have a general cleaning up of their premises. The clerk was instructed to have circulars printed and distributed for the purpose of informing the public about these matters.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL SERVICES WERE HELD SUNDAY

According to custom Confederate memorial day was observed in Beaufort on Sunday the 10th with appropriate ceremonies. The exercises were under the direction of the Fort Macon chapter U. D. C. and were held in the auditorium of the Graded School. Mr. U. E. Swann acted as chairman of the meeting. The invocation was given by Reverend E. T. Carrow and the benediction was pronounced by Reverend L. B. Boney. The exercises began with a selection by St. Paul's band in front of the building after which the members of Fort Macon chapter and children of the Confederacy preceded by Veteran N. F. Carrow carrying a Confederate banner marched up stairs to the hall. There was more music by the band and a beautiful solo "Mother Dear" by Miss Lucile Pond. The address of the day was made by Congressman Charles L. Abernethy who spoke of the valor of Confederate soldiers and their fidelity to the principles for which they fought. After the exercises at the school building the parade formed and marched to Live Oak cemetery where wreaths were deposited on the graves of the dead soldiers.

MUST HOLD DOWN STATE EXPENSES GOVERNOR SAYS

Income Not So Large As Expected And Departments Must Economize

HYDE LAND VALUES DECREASE

(By M. L. SHIPMAN)

Raleigh May 11—Governor McLean's announced determination to hold expenses of the State within its income was demonstrated in a practical manner last week when he issued a statement to all department heads regarding trimming their budgets. The Governor was on solid ground for he spoke facts. Outlining to each department and institution the allowances made for their support during the year, the Governor called attention to the fact that the State's income was falling behind anticipated collections and that as director of the budget, it was necessary to exercise the power vested in him to make the expenditures square with the income. His announcement means that unless income of the state shows a large increase, and this is unlikely, the amount allowed each department and institution will be cut approximately seven percent, for the fiscal year from July 1, 1925, to July 1, 1926.

During the week the State Highway Commission let contracts for thirteen road projects in various sections of the State. Seven other projects will be held in abeyance for the present until lower bids are obtained.

The tragic effect of the failure of the Mattamuskeet Lake drainage project in Hyde county was emphasized during the week when the Department of Commerce in Hyde county issue a statement showing that farm lands in the county has decreased in value \$900,000 from 1920 through 1924. This is believed to have been largely caused by the overflow of Lake Mattamuskeet and the flooding of some of the most fertile land in the State. A contract recently been let to a mid-west concern by which it is hoped to reclaim this land for agriculture by properly draining the area.

Gutzon Borglum come back into the Raleigh limelight with a speech at Meredith college in which he asserted North Carolina must take sides in the Stone Mountain controversy. He described what he had done and viewed his split with the Monumental Association leading to his being dismissed. At the same time a State member of the Association stated that regardless of how much personal sympathy there might be in North Carolina for Mr. Borglum, it was necessary to close the ranks and go ahead and aid in completion of the memorial to the Confederacy which is being carved on Stone Mountain.

The Raleigh police started a drive against vice during the week when a list of women engaged in immoral practices was obtained and they were told to "get out". There is no indication as to whether the drive will be a permanent proposition or merely another gesture such as is very often made for the control of the "social evil."

Six physicians of Durham will go on trial here on May 25 in Federal court for violating the Harrison act on violation of the Harrison act. They were arrested recently in the Bull city when a dive was started there and other North Carolina cities to clean out the evil. Much interest has attached during the week in Raleigh to the trial of the mob which removed Joseph Needleman from the Martin county jail and mutilated him. The trial in progress at Williamston has excited nation wide interest and the indictment of 28 men marks the first time in the history of the State that a mob has been indicted en masse. Newspapers per men returning here from the trial for the week end reported that the State had a strong case against the men and that probably Judge Sinclair, who is known to be "hard boiled" in such cases would have an opportunity of sending a number of the mob members to the Pen for long terms.

(Continued on page Two)