

THE STATE DISPATCH.

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LIFE FOR TRUTH

Beattie Can Live a Month if He Confesses.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 20th.—Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., sitting in the death cell of the penitentiary here, less than ten feet away from the electric chair in which he is to die next Friday, debated with himself Sunday a problem about as strange, as tremendous, as ever a man faced. It was this: "Would 30 additional days of life be worth while accepting in exchange for a confession of guilt? Would one more month of breath be a sufficient recompense for a final and eternal blackening of his name by himself?"

Governor Mann, it has developed, approached by all sorts of influence to grant the rich young wife slayer a short reprieve, made this grim proposal:

"If Beattie will make a full and frank confession, he can live until December 24, Christmas Eve. If he does not, he shall be electrocuted at the time now fixed. Let him decide for himself." It is understood that Beattie's lawyers informed him of the proposal yesterday, and that he said in reply: "Give me time to think. Give me time. I would like to live 30 days longer. God knows what might happen in 30 days. I cannot decide now. It is too great a question."

And so, contrary to his usual custom of spending the day reading light novels, he spent this Sunday pacing up and down his cell, or sitting on his cot with his head buried in his arms, wrestling with his big problem.

Naturally the boy wants life. He wants every minute of it he can have. He has many times exclaimed passionately: "Oh, God, if they'd only give me a few more weeks."

The amazing nerve that kept him up through his trial ordeal undoubtedly has begun to break. Within the past few days, at intervals, he has gone into fits of violent weeping, followed by outbursts of rage in which he would rant and swear.

Those who have been closest to him—apart from his relatives and lawyers—say they believe he would do anything for an added month of life. They expect that he will make the confession.

This, however, is what Henry will have to consider: He said, "God knows what might happen in 30 days." But if he makes the confession and gets the 30 days, nothing possibly happen to save, because the confession automatically will remove any possible doubt that Governor Mann might have of his guilt—and the governor is convinced of it already.

Beattie may figure that it would be foolish for that reason to admit his guilt. On the other hand, he may consider that he might as well tell the truth, make the jurors who convicted him feel more comfortable, and take what sweetness there may be in a month of life.

His aged father saw him today. When asked afterward what he expected Henry would do, the elder Beattie merely said: "If my boy makes any statement to the public before the end, it will be greatly against my wishes and advice."

Ministerial Association Passes Fine Resolution.

Resolved, that we, the members of the Ministerial Association of the town of Burlington, having had a most enjoyable conference with our Mayor, Mr. J. H. Freeland, in regard to law enforcement, and in the betterment of all things pertaining to civic righteousness and civic improvement, do herewith pledge ourselves, and as far as we are able, pledge our various congregations to co-operate with him and his police force, in the proper enforcement of all the ordinances now in force.

S. L. Morgan, Secretary.

The Dispatch a year for \$1.00.

Gone to M. P. Conference.

Rev. J. D. Williams, pastor of the M. P. Church, and Mr. G. L. Amick, his delegate, left yesterday for Henderson, where they go to attend the North Carolina Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. The M. P. church here has paid all its claims for the year, and the pastor and delegate go to conference with a clear sheet. Mr. Amick was unanimously instructed by the Fourth Quarterly Conference last week, to ask for the return of the present pastor. The members are hoping that his efforts along this line will be entirely successful. Mr. Williams gives the following synopsis of his year's work: Sermons Preached, 183; Funerals, 26; Pastoral Visits, 520; Marriages, 12; No. enrolled in S. S., 300; Church members, 339; Amount contributed for all purposes, \$1800.00.

Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll And Mrs. W. N. Hutt of Raleigh Coming.

Mrs. W. N. Hutt, chairman of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, and Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll of Raleigh, will be in Burlington, Friday, Nov. 24, and under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

On Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Mrs. Hutt will address the children at the Graded School on "School Hygiene." At 3 o'clock at the Baptist church, she will speak to the ladies of the town on "The Moral Problem of the Children."

At 8 o'clock Friday evening, at the Baptist church, Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll will address the citizens of Burlington on "Municipal Health."

Mrs. W. N. Hutt is a fine speaker and is thoroughly acquainted with the delicate subject of the moral problem of the children.

Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll, as a member of the distinguished Dixon family, needs no further introduction to our people. The public cordially invited to be present at these meetings.

The regular monthly meeting of the W. C. T. will be held at Mrs. T. F. Coble's next Monday afternoon at 3:30. A full attendance is desired.

Sidewalks for Mill People.

Elsewhere in the columns is printed an appeal to our street commissioners from the Ministerial Association of the city in behalf of the mill people of Burlington. If anyone doubts that the appeal is both humane and reasonable, he has only to visit the mill districts morning, noon or night, and see the hundreds of mill working people thronging the principal sidewalks leading to the mills. In the throng are hundreds of women and children many of them frail. Four times a day most of them tramp those streets, going to and from the mills. In winter and spring the sidewalks are usually wet and muddy. During part of the winter the people go to their work before daylight; during all the winter they return home after it is dark. Often they are forced to wade through the mud and water, most of them without rubber shoes. They stand all day with damp feet. The result—colds, sickness, suffering, lost time, lost wages, doctors' bills; sometimes weakened constitutions, consumption, death. The mill owners, the town, the state, lose money by it. Not to improve these conditions now will be sin before heaven. Gradually we are learning that it pays the town and state in dollars and cents to protect the health of the laboring people who produce our wealth. And gradually our code of ethics is recognizing that town or state becomes a party to murder when it neglects to safeguard the health of its citizens. We need a public sentiment that the safeguarding of health shall be placed above the improvement of property. The placing of our sidewalks will indicate which our town puts highest.

S. L. Morgan.

WHO WILL BE FIRST?

We have a large number of subscribers who are in arrears on subscription. We need the money and will appreciate it if you will come forward with the goods. The label on your paper will tell how much you are behind. If you are paid up this does not mean you; it not send us a dollar or two and we will continue to dish out the news. We mean business.

LOCAL ATTORNEY

NEAR DEATH'S DOOR

Sapulpa, Okla., Nov. 13 1911.—Affected by the sudden change of waters in his bath, Attorney J. F. Greason lapsed into unconsciousness last night and for two hours was in danger of his life while he lay in a stupor. Only the discovery of the unconscious man by a small boy who lives in the same house saved him from serious harm or probably death. It is said that an escape of gas from a stove was also instrumental in causing the bad atmospheric condition.

Greason's condition was considered very serious by the two physicians called to attend him. He was placed in bed and this morning was able to attend to his office duties. He says that he did not notice the escaping gas or heated room until he stepped into his own apartment to dress. Feeling faint he dropped on the bed and only remembers being aroused by doctors.—Sapulpa Light.

(Mr. Greason is the brother of Mrs. R. A. Coble, of this city, is a native of eastern Guilford, having moved to Oklahoma only a few years ago for the practice of his profession.)

To the Street Commissioners.

Whereas, the most densely populated portions of Burlington are those adjacent to the larger mills in each end of the city, and

Whereas, it is evident that paved sidewalks are more needed in these portions than anywhere else, excepting only the central business section and the main thoroughfares leading there to, and

Whereas, it is both humane and profitable to the mill owners to add to the comfort and to safeguard the health of the hundreds of mill operatives—

Resolved, That the Burlington Ministerial Association, as the representatives of the best humane and christian sentiment of the community, do urgently petition our street commissioners to pave all the principal sidewalks in all mill districts, and especially those leading to the mill entrances.

S. L. Morgan, Secretary.

Too Much Emphasis on Wealth.

Eugene Foss, by his own statement, spent \$27,000 in his successful campaign for the governorship of Massachusetts one year ago. This year his statement shows he spent \$16,823 for the same purpose. New legislation covering the matter of campaign expenditures reduced the necessities, or the possibilities, and worked a saving for the fighting tariff reformer.

However, in spite of legislation, the Bay State governor has spent close to \$14,000 to secure for himself two years of the governorship and get in return an aggregate for the two salary years of \$16,000. Evidently a poor man, or a man in moderate circumstances, cannot afford to compete with such free-handness if he expects to remain honest while in office. Mr. Foss, of course is wealthy.

The example is bad, at best. Such expenditures in the pursuit of public office tend to bring politics down in the popular estimation. It tends further, to indicate that officeholding is for the rich alone and is to be attained only through the previous attainment of riches. Such a belief, while not wholly true, gets seeming support by the example of a man who is willing to spend more than twice his prospective salary in order to get the chance to draw the salary.

No Democracy for Him.

Under this Democratic good government I find that cotton has fallen under the cost of production. The Democratic party said that Republican high tariff was the cause of the high cost of living, and I stay under the Republican government I could buy two packages of coffee 35 cents for which I now have to pay 60 cents. Sugar is nine cents per pound; the farmer's produce is coming down and what the merchant has to sell is going up. If that is Democratic good government, I don't want any more of it. I am for high protective tariff. My advice is for every farmer and laborer to vote the Republican ticket next fall and change this high cost of living and low price of cotton.—H. A. Black, St. Paul, N. C. in Raleigh Caucasian.

NO SUNDAY CLOSING LAW AT LEXINGTON

Lexington, Nov. 15.—The Lexington Board of Aldermen held a special meeting last night at which a number of interesting things happened.

The church folks were present in force to ask the city fathers to pass a Sunday closing ordinance, and Rev. John T. Senkins, pastor of the First Baptist Church, made a strong speech in favor of it.

Alderman J. T. Hendrick introduced the ordinance and moved its adoption, at the close of Mr. Jenkins' address, but there was nothing doing.

The motion received not even a second, and after a few minutes of intense silence, Mayor Moyer said that it looked like the Sunday closing ordinance had "died a-borning," and so it had. This means that the drug stores will remain open, ministering to the sick and thirsty, especially the latter, and that restaurants will be allowed to do business all day long.

Makes Her Hats to Suit Her Features.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Parisian milliners would envy the skill with which Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth trims her own fetching hats. In passing through Washington en route to Cincinnati, where she will remain until the opening of Congress, Mrs. Longworth proudly displayed to her "reversible hat."

This marvel of the milliner's art was an Alice Blue French velour, which, trimmed simply, and turned up at one side, made an attractive traveling hat. Mrs. Longworth explained that whenever she wanted to wear the hat for dress affairs she simply put a mess of white aigrettes on it and placed a flower here and there.

Mrs. Longworth has long been noted for her beautiful and effective hats. She aims to make her hats suit her own face rather than the styles.

Model Piece of Street.

Greensboro, Nov. 17.—Special. What is probably the best piece of street in the city is the one block on Gaston between Elm and Greene, at the side of the city hall, which has just been completed at a cost of \$1,500. Commissioner Foushee has taken great care to see that it is a good piece of work and says that he believes it will last from fifteen to twenty years without repair. It is announced that East Market from Elm to Davis will be repaved in the same manner.

The 5, 10 & 25c. Store have just added a Dry Goods counter.

City Improvements For Graham.

Some tarvia streets are being built in the neighborhood of Graham depot. This will be a great improvement over the old clay streets, which have become almost impassable in muddy weather.

Some of Graham's best people have recently been hard at work, endeavoring to organize a Town Betterment Association. The citizens have been invited to meet in the courthouse on Nov. 25th, at 7 a. m., for the purpose of making a permanent organization. It is hoped that the people will show themselves enough interested to attend this meeting and that the organization will prove to be a great uplift to their beautiful little city.

Mrs. Rich of Graham Entertains.

In her home not long since, Mrs. W. A. Rich and her music class gave a recital, having only a number of invited friends present. The recital met with such approval that by request it was repeated in the opera house on the night of November 17, the proceeds being used for the benefit of the Confederate monument, soon to be erected in the court house square. The people of the town showed their appreciation of the recital by their presence and attention.

Mrs. Rich is an accomplished teacher. She and her Sunny Side Music Class deserve much credit for their faithful efforts and the great success of the recital.

Death of Mrs. Dick.

Mrs. Lutitia M. Dick died in her home between Alamance Mills and St. Marks Reformed Church Nov. 16, 1911, aged about 84 years. Early last Spring she was paralyzed and suffered a great deal since that time. Her funeral was held in the home on the 17th by her pastor Rev. J. D. Andrew and her body was taken to St. Paul's Lutheran church for burial.

She was a member of St. Marks Reformed Church and was a good peaceable and kind woman. Her husband, Mr. P. P. Dick survives her. They lived in married life 43 years, but had no children.

Rumors of Beattie's Confession Heard.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 18.—Although positive denial is made tonight that Henry Clay Beattie, Jr. has made a confession, various rumors are afloat and considerable significance is attached to the time spent with the prisoner by the Rev. Benjamin Dennis. While the latter declines to talk to reporters attention is called to the case of Chester Gillette, the youthful New York murderer who declared his innocence up to the moment of his taking the death chair, and then left a confession with his spiritual adviser.

Death of Baby.

Ruby May, the 4 months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Truitt, was found dead in bed in the home of her parents near Elmira Mills last Friday morning. Her funeral was held in Shallow Ford Christian Church by Rev. J. D. Andrew. These parents have the sympathy of their friends since this is the first death in their family.

A Person in Authority.

"Is the editor in chief? asked a stranger, as he sauntered into the office at 8 o'clock in the morning.

"No, sir," replied the attendant, kindly, "he does not come so early. Is there anything I can do?"

"Perhaps so. Are you connected with the poetical department of the paper?"

"I am, sir."

"Oh; What do you do?"

"Empty the waste paper basket, sir.—Tit-Bits.

Mr. S. A. Horne is spending part of this week out on No. 5 quail hunting.

MOVEMENT FOR TROLLEY LINE

Mr. J. W. Murray, representing the Piedmont Traction Company, spent Friday at Chapel Hill in conference with a number of leading business men, looking to the building of an electric car line to Durham by way of Saxapahaw and Chapel Hill. Saxapahaw is a cotton mill town about eighteen miles between Chapel Hill and this place. The citizens, who are expected to take some of the bonds, are seizing on the proposition with enthusiasm. Several committees have been appointed to gather data as to the probable freight and passenger traffic and to investigate general conditions.

It is hoped that all rights-of-way may be secured and other preparations concluded so that work may be begun in from four to six months. The cost of the whole enterprise from Greensboro to Durham will amount to around \$1,000,000. Part of the line is already constructed and in operation, the part from here to Haw River, a distance of 8 miles.

It is freely predicted that eventually the line may become incorporated with the great interurban system of the Southern Power Company.

An electric line from Duham to Chapel Hill has been much discussed for the past few years. Last year the project might have been consummated if the Legislature had granted the Southern Railway permission to take up its tracks to University Station.

BIG RAILROAD DEAL ON

Raleigh, Nov. 17.—Special. President E. T. Lamb and General Council W. B. Hodman of the Norfolk Southern Railroad were in Raleigh today, conferring with the North Carolina Transportation Commission, and there is generally credited report that the Norfolk Southern is consummating a deal through which it purchases the Raleigh & Southport, the Durham & Southern and the Aberdeen & Asheboro Railroads.

The Raleigh & Southport is operating from Raleigh to Fayetteville and building from Lillington to Sanford; the Aberdeen & Asheboro, or Page road, has an important line from Aberdeen, Moore county, up through Montgomery county into Randolph to Asheboro, with trackage privilege over the Southern into High Point; and the Durham & Southern has an important line from Durham, through Wake and Harnett counties, to Dunn, connecting with the Atlantic Coast Line there.

Just what combinations the Norfolk Southern has in view in the impending deal does not yet appear. It may push on south to Charleston and there may be in view extensions to Durham, Greensboro, Winston-Salem and taking in the Elkin & Allegheny Railroad westward that President Mills of the Raleigh & Southport is actively pushing toward completion as general manager under President Hugh H. Chatham. Again there is a possibility mentioned that the Raleigh & Charlotte road, projected by E. C. Duncan, may ultimately put the Norfolk Southern into Charlotte.

Troy, Nov. 17.—Special. It is reported here tonight on good authority that all holdings of the Asheboro and Aberdeen Railroad Co. have been sold to the Seaboard Air Line. The deal was consummated at Biscoe today. The Asheboro & Aberdeen owns the line from Aberdeen to Asheboro, from Pinehurst to Carthage, from Candor to Ellerbe and from Biscoe to Mount Gilead. It was thought here that it was the Seaboard Air Line that purchased the Durham & Charlotte a few days ago. All this means great railroad development for this part of the State.

It will soon be time to cast all one's cares away and order another plate of buckwheat, cakes and sausage.