FATHER AND SON PAY THE PENALTY

Richmond, Va., March 28.—Uttering a prayer and crying audibly that he was ready to go, Floyd Allen, whose refusal to accept a short prison term for a minor offense led to the wholesale court murder in Hillsville one year ago, limped to the death chair in the State penitentiary today, 11 minutes ahead of Claude Swanson Allen, his son.

The sentence of the court, held up for six hours while desperate and dramatic efforts were being made to save the condemned men, eleventhour appeals to the Lieutenant Governor, was speedily ordered to proceed when Governor Mann hastened back to Virginia soil to take charge of a situation which was sensational and exciting to a degree. The prison superintendent, acting strictly within the law, agreed to clock to postpone the execution giving Attorney General Williams an opportunity of Lieutenant Governor Ellyson to pass upon the constitutional right.

The young son of Governor Mann reached his father in Philadelphia by telephone less than an hour after the delay had been granted and by 8 o'clock today the Governor was again on Virginia soil. Incensed, as it afterward developed, by the unexpected effort to take advantage of his temporary absence when he had repeatedly refused clemency, the Governor boarded an early morning train arriving in Richmond at 11:30 o'clock. On the way he telegraphed the Secretary of the Commonwealth that he would be in Virginia by 8 o'clock, this information suddenly checked the plan of Allen sympathizers in further urging the Lieutenant Governor to interfere.

While every proceeding had halted, depending the Governor's arrival, word reached police headquarters that a crowd had assembled at the station, patrolmen, detectives and plainclothes men being hurried there to prevent any demonstration. When the Governor stepped on the platform he was quickly surrounded by officers who escorted him to a taxicab which took him quickly to the Capitol.

In his office at the State prison, Superintendent Wood was pacing the floor nervously as he awaited developments. The situation there had become more intense. Precisely at noon the superintendent was called to the telephone.

"The Governor of Virginia is at his desk," was the message he received from the Capitol and instantly preparations were made to obey the mandate of the court. The witness who had assembled at 7 o'clock, the hour announced for the execution, had left the prison with instructions to return at 1 o'clock.

Soon after sunrise the Allens had partially composed when news came that a half-day respite had been granted by a combination of legal and technical circumstances as strange as any that had ever been presented to the courts of justice. Claude Allen, too, had retained his nerve throughout the trying ordeal in his behalf, grasped and trembled as he regained his composure as he noted the hopeless and dejected appearance of his aged father in the cell across the corridor. As the morning hours passed they sat with their spiritual advise, but they nerved themselves again for the end when they heard that Governor Mann had returned to Virginia. Men prominent in official circles of the State, who waited in the Capitol for a final plea to the Governor, were turned away, as his secretary handed out his statements from the Executive.

"Hearing at five minutes to 3 o'clock this morning of the action taken in the the Allen case after I left the city, I considered it my duty to hurry back. I simply desire to repeat that after the most careful examination of the evidence in this case. I have not the slightest doubt of the guilt of Floyd and Claude Allen, and I will not interfere. The law must take its course."

What brought forth the greatest indignation from the Governor was the reported fact that the plan to appeal to the Lieutenant Governor was agreed upon a week ago. While there was no intimation from Lieutenant Governor Ellyson that he would interfere, his willingness last night to await a written opinion from the Attorney General, who had already ruled verbally that he was without authority, was accepted outside to mean that the life of Claude Allen might be spared. Governor Mann, however, cut through the maze of uncertainty and doubt by hastening home.

The jury which under the law is required to witness all executions assembled outside the penitentiary gates short before 1 o'clock, minning there with the crowd. The program as orginally announced was carried out without change. While two ministers who have been unfaltering in their loyalty to the condemened men were telling them goodbye, the prison superintendent stepped into the corridor which separated the cells of father and son, and read the death warrant.

Floyd Allen, still limping from the wounds he received in the Hillsville court battle, said the last tearfully farewell to his boy and went with the prison guards to the death chamber. A groan escaped him as he sat in the chair while the straps and electrodes were being fastened about him. The current was turned on at 1:22 oclock and in four minutes the surgeons motioned to the superintendent that he was dead. The body was speedily removed.

Again the chair was tested while Claude Swanson Allen, namesake of a United States Senator was being led through the corridor to the chamber door. Through a trifle pale, he marched with measured stride his head held high, his wonderful nerve with him to the end. As he took his seat he moved his arms to assist the guards who were adjusting the straps and like his father he went silently and unfraid. When the autopsy had been performed the bodies were given over Victor Allen, Floyd's son, by whom they were taken to the mountains of southwest Virginia for burial.

OHIO RIVER STEADILY CLIMBLING OUT OF BANKS

Cincinnati, Ohio, March 27,—The Ohio River has been rising steadily here all day and still is climbing tonight. At 8 o'clock the gauge showed 60, a rise of more than three feet since the same hour this morning.

East and west of this city on the Ohio side of the river the lowland has been inundated and much damage has been done. In the low sections of the city many houses have been flooded and the inhabitants of these sections have fled to higher ground.

Across the river at Newport and Covington, Ky., similiar conditions prevail and the police early today took the precaution to warn dwellers in the low-lying sections of the danger that threatened. Larger areas on that side of the river are flooded because of the greater extent of the low lands also because of Mill Creek which flows through both cities.

Dayton and Ludlow other Kentucky suburbs of this city, also are sufferers from the rising flood and many houses are completely under water while others are submerged only to the second stories. No lives have been lost in this district because of the insistent warnings that have been sent broadcast.

The Weather Bureau here predicts that the river will have reached a stage of nearly 70 feet by tomorrow, almost as high as it was on Feburary 14, 1884, when the gauge showed 71 feet, the highest on record.

Chapel Hill Items.

The high scholarship record of the freshman class during their first term in college, Sept Jan. 1611—12, and 1912—13, includes one member of the class that averaged 100 on all grades, Marshville, Union county, gains this distinction and individual credit is due A. R. Newsom. The high schools of Greensboro and Charlotte led all high schools represented at the University in the scholarship exhibit, each school contributing four students each to attain the record of not less than 90 on all studies. Raleigh, Winston, Marshville and Webb schools furnishes two students each in the high scholarship record.

"What Happened to Jones," the successful comedy staged by the Dramatic Club of the University of North Carolina is booked to make a tour of a number of North Carolina towns during the next two weeks. Visits to the following eastern towns have been planned: Fayetteville, Wilmington, Winston Smithfield, Wilson and Weldon. This production by the dramatic talent of the University has met with due recognition wherever staged, and it was met with such favor in Raleigh that its second appearance was made.

The triangular debate between the universities of Virginia, John Hopkins and North Carolina, to be held on neutral ground, is scheduled for April 19. The query to be discussed by the three institutions is: "Resolved, That disregarding the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, the tolls of the Panama Canal should be the same to the merchant ships of all nations." This is the fourth debate in the past few years between the universites of Virginia and North Carolina and each institutions has won two.

Professor P. H. Boynton, of Chicago, delivered the second of the series of lectures by eminent Americans under the auspices of the University faculty Friday night. His subject was "The London of Dickens." Maintaining a high record as a lecturer, as well as a writer and teacher, his lecture was in keeping with the high standard amed at in these lectures by scholars from all sections of the country.

The award of the contract for the design of the $50,000 00 dining hall of the University of North Carolina was issued this week to Milburn-Heister Co., of Washington, D. C. Eight competive designes were submitted by various architects. H. P. S. Keller, of Raleigh, submitted the design to receive the approval of second choice.

Clods Mean Poor Stands and Hard Work—Get Rid of Them Now.

Sandy soils are not our richest soils. They are not even our best soils, but they have one advantage which may not be fully appreciated. Much is said about the preparation of a good seedbed and one of the characteristics of a good seedbed is a finely pulverized soil. This the sandy land farmer secures with ease, but not so the farmer stiff lands. Every spring as we go through the country the thought forces itself upon us, that the wonder is not that the soils do not produce better crops, but that many of them produce any crop at all. If we consider that the clods are of no benefit to the young plants, but actually an obstacle to their growth, there should be no trouble in accounting for bad stands, slow growth of the crops and the inevitable result, small yields.

The best means for preventing clods is to fill the soil with vegetable matter. This requires a systematic feeding of the soil for years and is not a remedy that can be applied this year. Drainage also tends to prevent clods but this also cannot be used to prevent the clods now being dealt with, and yet the best way to deal with the problem is to prevent their formation. There is one method of preventing clods which can always be used but a trip through the South at this season, will show that it is not generally used. In fact, if the truth must be told, in most cases no effort of any sort is made to prevent the formation of clods, while the breaking of them is generally left largely to the rains and cultivation after the crops are planted and growing.

The best means of preventing clouds, which is always effective, is to thoroughly disk the surface before breaking. No means yet discovered is quite so effective. If it is regarded as too much trouble or expense, then we can only answer that it is less trouble to prevent clods in this way than to pulverize them after breaking the land, and if they are not to be pulverized at all it will usually be more profitable not to plant the land.

The one-horse farmer cannot use the disk before breaking to prevent clods and he must depend on pulverizing them after breaking. The time to do this is the same half-day in which the land is plowed. We have seen land broken that was too wet to harrow immediately after plowing, but it was also too wet to plow. The time to break the clouds is as soon after the lands is broken as possible and the harrowing for this purpose should not be delayed more than a few hours at most. The best plan is to stop early enough before dinner and before "taking out" time at night to harrow what has been broken. Practically every farmer knows this and yet not one in fifty pays any heed to it, but spends three times as much time trying to pulverize the clods later, or plants the crops among the clouds, depending on the rainfall and cultivation of the crops to finally break the most of the clouds. The results are poor stands, greater cost in cultivation and smaller crops.

Contest closes April 15.