

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

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CURTIS STEVENS IS ACQUITTED

HIS CAR KILLED ELMER JOYCE SATURDAY NIGHT — MAGISTRATES' HEARING FREES HIM OF CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER — ACCIDENT OCCURRED NEAR RHODES DANCE HALL.

Saturday night about 11 o'clock in the road near the W. W. Rhodes dance hall, Elmer Joyce aged 23, was hit and almost instantly killed by an automobile driven by Curtis Stevens, aged 20.

Stevens was arrested and given a hearing here Wednesday before Justices Martin and Campbell, who decided there was insufficient evidence to bind him over to court on a charge of manslaughter.

It appeared from the evidence disclosed at the hearing the Joyce was walking down the highway from the direction of Lawsonville when struck by the car. Stevens testified that he did not see Joyce until within 3 feet of him, being blinded by another car approaching. He says his brakes were good, having been adjusted the same day by Frank Lawson, mechanic at Danbury, and that as soon as he saw the pedestrian he applied his brakes, but was unable to stop, and that the car skidded about 30 feet after the impact occurred. He swore he was making only 25 or 30 miles. He then rushed to the dance hall and informed officers Cleve Lawson, Berk Smith and others.

The dying man was found first by Shores Hall and Mr. Sheppard, who removed him to the side of the road, where he breathed his last.

Witnesses found that Joyce was barefooted, and that his shoes were lying at separate places ahead in the road, one 69 feet distant, the other 54 feet. How the shoes came there, no one could explain.

Undertaker J. E. Nelson testified that at the funeral station, both legs of the dead man were broken between the feet and the knees, and that the back of his head was possibly crushed. No other injuries were on the body.

On cross-examination the defendant declared he had not been drinking. This statement was corroborated by his girl friend Miss Spencer, who had been riding with him a short while before the accident.

Young Joyce was a son Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Joyce of Lawsonville.

The defendant Stevens is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Watt Stevens of Danbury Route 1.

Mrs. Lambe

In Hospital

Mrs. Annie K. Lambe of Walnut Cove is reported in a Winston-Salem hospital for an operation for appendicitis.

Stokes Welfare Officials Attend District Conference At Boone

Miss Evelyn Page, Stokes county superintendent of welfare and social security, accompanied by her staff, Mrs. Mary Pepper, Miss Ruth Patterson and Miss Grace Woodruff attended the district welfare conference at Boone Wednesday.

The ladies report a very interesting and pleasurable trip over the mountains, going by Wikesboro and other points up in the beautiful hill country. The mountains were wrapped in a blanket of snow and sleet, and it was intensely cold, but the roads were clear and fine.

At Boone many high officials of the State welfare service were present, including Mrs. Bost, Mr. Yelton, and others.

A fine program had been arranged, and there was an elegant luncheon.

All in all, it was a delightful trip for the visitors.

Other Stokes personages present at the conference were Harvey Johnson, of the county commissioners; Roy Redding, of the county welfare board, and Mr. Lawrence McRae, public spirited citizen.

There were representatives present from quite a number of the counties of the Northwestern district.

J. P. Slawter Dies At Capella

J. Pinkley Slawter, aged 79, died at his home at Capella, King Route 1, Sunday.

Mr. Slawter was a prominent citizen of his section and one of the finest tobacco growers in the county.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at Boyle's Chapel Primitive Baptist church of which he was a charter member. Officiating were Elders J. A. Fagg and F. H. Reid, Interment was in Rock House Primitive Baptist cemetery. The deceased was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Slawter. He was twice married, and of the first union the four surviving children are John D. Slawter, A. A. Slawter and Mrs. W. S. Tiley, of Winston-Salem, and Charles L. Slawter, of Pinnacle, route. His second wife survives with the following children of the union: Woodrow Slawter, Leaksville and Alton Paul, Carolyn and Oliver Slawter, of the home. Also surviving are a sister, Miss Mint Slawter, Jacksonville, Fla.; a brother, Jim Slawter, Jacksonville, two half-brothers, Lum Slawter, and six grandchildren.

Dr. G. W. Owens of Spenser, W. Va., was here this week visiting friends. Dr. Owens formerly practiced medicine here. He was accompanied by Ralph Nunn of Westfield.

Page Mr. Ripley



Picture of original Danbury Reporter press, imbedded in the body of a tree, which grew around it during 55 years.

King News

King, Nov. 17—A force of state highway men have just completed the job of paving Main street with stone and oil. This improvement begins at the intersection of Main and Broad streets in east King and extends through Westview and on old Highway No. 63 to the Dalton bridge.

There is slight improvement in the condition of Tiny Calloway who is suffering from an attack of pneumonia and who has been very sick at his home for the past several days.

Funeral services for Alec Martin Westmoreland, aged 82, who died suddenly was held at Poplar Springs Church Monday and interment was in the church graveyard. The deceased is survived by several children and a number of grandchildren.

Alvin and Bryan White sold a truck load of tobacco on the Mount Airy market last week for \$1,197.00.

Miss Kate Stone, trained nurse of Charlotte has accepted a position with the Stone-Hebback Clinic and will enter on her new duties December 1st. Miss Stone who was reared near here has been employed by the Knoll Clinic at Charlotte for the past twenty-five years.

Mrs. O. W. Crandell of Winston-Salem, H. C. Martin of Walnut Cove, Miss Gene Hunter of Pilot Mountain and Mrs. Galespie of Pinnacle.

Little Patsy Jene Moore of Winston-Salem is spending a few

days with Dr. and Mrs. E. M. Griffin in west King.

Mrs. Lora Hutchinson of Amelia Courthouse, Va. formerly of King is spending some time with relatives and friends here.

The following patients underwent total operations in the Stone-Hebback Clinic last week:

The following births were registered here last week: to Mr. and Mrs. James Apperson a son, to Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Key a daughter and to Mr. and Mrs. James Farnir a son.

New Danbury Road Sought

Pilot Mountain, Nov. 12—A group of Pilot Mountain citizens recently conferred with the Stokes county commissioners at Danbury and requested the board to pass a resolution recommending a hard-surface road from Pilot Mountain to Danbury.

The Stokes commissioners passed the requested resolution. A similar resolution was passed recently by the Surry commissioners. The road would pass through State Park, Piedmont Springs, Moore's Springs and Wade Meadows.

The Pilot Mountain delegation was composed of O. E. Snow, Dr. S. F. Tillotson, J. E. Thore, I. M. Gordon and W. R. Badgett.

County Commissioner H. L. Gibson of Bear's Creek was here Tuesday qualifying as administrator of the estate of his father, the late A. J. Gibson.

A SIGHT OF DAYS GONE BY

ORIGINAL DANBURY REPORTER WASHINGTON HAND PRESS, BURNED IN 1874, IS EMBEDDED IN TREE TRUNK AT DANBURY — COME BY AND SEE IT.

The first issue of the Danbury Reporter was published Jan. 25, 1872, nearly 66 years ago.

In the year 1874, the newspaper office which stood on the site now occupied by the original Bank of Stokes County building here, was burned. Years after the fire some parties lifted the old Washington hand press that had been used, out of the debris, and set it against a small locust sapling on the other side of the street.

It is still there, and Mr. Carl Georch, editor of the Raleigh State Magazine, came up recently and photographed it.

Below is what the State says about it:

Fifty-five years ago, up in Danbury, county seat of Stokes county, the building in which the Danbury Reporter was located caught fire and was practically destroyed.

When the fire was discovered, every effort was made to save as much of the equipment as possible. Among the things taken out of the burning building was part of an old-time Washington hand press. This was taken across the street by some of the firefighters and was carelessly leaned up against a young sapling, about five or six inches in diameter.

The sapling continued to grow and the upright frame of the press continued to remain there. Nobody apparently thought of removing it, inasmuch as it was not in anybody's way.

As the tree continued to expand it found its progress impeded by the press. However, it apparently takes more than a printing press to hamper the works of Nature. There was no way that the tree itself could rid itself of the press, so it decided to make the best of a rather troublesome situation... it proceeded to wrap itself around the press.

And, as you can see from the accompanying photograph, it has made a pretty good job of doing exactly this. The tree itself is now about two and one-half to three feet in diameter. The press has become part of the tree and is now so firmly embedded in its side that it would be impossible to remove one from the other.

Mr. Pepper, present publisher and editor of the Danbury Reporter, showed us the tree last week. He said that it was one of the most interesting sights in and around Danbury and that hundreds of people came up there every year just to look at it. So far as he knows, there isn't another thing like it in the country. We're going to send the accom-

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"RAILROAD JIM" IS IN THE TOILS

ARRESTED AT HIS STILL, HE OFFERS HIS CAPTORS SOME GOOD LIKKER TO GO BACK HOME AND SAY NOTHING—A DANGEROUS CHARACTER IN THE SEVEN ISLAND HILLS IS ROUNDED UP AND SCHEDULED FOR COURT.

Three deputy sheriffs invaded the fastnesses of the Seven Island hills Monday and arrested "Railroad Jim" Mabe at his still. The copper, of 40-gallon capacity, and a quantity of beer ready for the brew, were also captured.

Old man Jim is 75 or 80 years of age with a white beard. He slipped up on him in the act. He was just firing up for the "run."

But when this, his wife, probably after hearing the advance of the officers, went down to the plant and appraised old Jim, so that he hurriedly crept back up the hill toward his home, not knowing the law was coming from a different direction.

The still was located two or three hundred yards from Jim's house. After Jim had left with his wife going back toward the house, the deputies left one of their number at the still, and intercepted Jim.

He knew at once there was trouble, and flew into a great passion.

"Go down yonder and search in that hollow, and then come back here tomorrow," he exclaimed, pointing to the woods opposite to where the officers had already located the illicit outfit. "I'll give you all a quart of the best that ever went down any man's guzzle."

"No we are going to look back here first," replied the law, indicating the real location.

"Don't you go down thar, if you do, you'll never come out alive. I'll shoot the first man that starts down that path."

Jim Mabe has the reputation of being a dangerous man when anybody fools with his liquor business. He is strong and active for a man of his age, and of a violent and evil temper.

The two officers immediately seized him, knowing that he was as good as his word. They had to drag him more than a hundred yards before he finally submitted to arrest and calmed down.

Then seeming to recover his senses, he told the officers that he did not blame them for having to do their duty, but he begged them to advise him who had betrayed him, who had reported him to the law. He declared that he would kill the informer on sight if his breechloader would "bust a shell."

Jim was brought to Danbury and put under a \$300 bond for his appearance at the next term of court.

Several years ago he was arraigned in court here on the charge of manufacturing liquor,

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