

# THE DANBURY REPORTER

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## OTIS WATKINS KILLED MONDAY

**ANTHONY CRAIG IN DANBURY JAIL CHARGED WITH MURDER — DEFENDANT SURRENDERED TO STOKES AUTHORITIES TUESDAY AT STELLA, VA. — AFFAIR HAPPENED NEAR SANDY RIDGE AT A HOG-KILLING—CRAIG WILL PROBABLY BE TRIED FOR FIRST DEGREE MURDER AT STOKES SPECIAL TERM OF COURT JANUARY 13.**

Otis Walker, aged 17, was shot and killed Monday afternoon, December 23, about 3 o'clock at the home of Anthony Craig, aged 23, a neighbor, after Craig had finished killing hogs.

Craig, charged with the killing, immediately escaped into Virginia, but on Tuesday notified the Stokes county authorities from Stella, Va., that he would surrender. Officers at once brought him to Danbury jail.

After the shooting, Sheriff John Taylor was notified, and was there in an hour.

Officers spent the day and night in search of Craig.

The circumstances surrounding the affair appear to be as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Sam Venable and other neighbors went to the Craig home early Monday to assist in slaughtering hogs.

During the butchering, Craig and Watkins engaged in an argument. Craig went into his house and secured a single-barrelled shotgun, but Venable took the weapon away from him.

Craig then returned to the house and secured a rifle which Venable also took away from him.

A short time later, Craig slipped a shell out of his pocket, managed to secure the shotgun while Venable was not looking and shot Watkins dead.

Watkins was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Watkins of Sandy Ridge, Route 1. He is survived by his parents; four brothers, Willie, Sam, Noel and David Watkins; and two sisters, Ruth and Louise Watkins, all of the home.

The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Christian View Church. Burial was in the church graveyard.

Craig will probably be tried for first degree murder at a special term of court January 13.

## Odell Boles Dies At Walnut Cove

Odell Boles, aged 28, building contractor of Walnut Cove, Route 1, died in a Winston-Salem hospital at 11:30 o'clock Monday night.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Boles; one sister, Miss Eva Mae Boles, of the home.

Funeral services were conducted from Palmyra Methodist Church at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon by Rev. W. R. Harris and Rev. J. T. Manuel. Burial was in the church graveyard.

## Murder and Suicide In Southern Stokes

One day last week a colored man named Covington, living near Fulp in the extreme southern section of this county shot and instantly killed his daughter, then turned the gun on himself and committed suicide.

It was considered on investigation by the authorities that no inquest was necessary.

The man was aged about 65, his daughter about 35. It was reported from the investigation that the man killed his daughter because she was fixing to marry another man, and the neighborhood talk is that there had long been incestuous relations between the man and his daughter.

## Death Claims Mrs. Lawson

Mrs. Nancy Lawson, aged 75, Germanton, Route 1, died at 2:25 o'clock Thursday morning at the home of her son, M. F. Lawson, following an illness of three weeks with pneumonia. She was in declining health for several years.

Mrs. Lawson was the widow of W. G. Lawson, who died several years ago. Since his death she has resided with her children. She was born in 1865.

Survivors include five sons, M. F. Lawson, John Lawson, Elisha Lawson and G. W. Lawson, all of Germanton, Route 1, and James Lawson of Ohio; one daughter, Mrs. Sis Bowling, Germanton, Route 1; three brothers, John Lawson of Missouri, Joe Lawson, Maydan and Charles Lawson, Stuart, Va.; one sister, Mrs. Dossie Mabe, Walnut Cove; and several grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon at Corinth Church. Burial will be at Browder Cemetery.

## Marriage

Maggie Baker and Frank Duggins entered into the marriage contract here Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. Justice of the Peace P. C. Campbell officiated.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Baker. The groom is the son of Mrs. S. J. Duggins.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE HELD THURSDAY NIGHT

A large crowd enjoyed the Christmas tree and entertaining music at the M. E. Church by the Union Sunday School Thursday night.

## Solons Headed East

W. F. Marshall to the Senate; Ed Taylor to the House. These law-makers are preparing for Raleigh next week.

Quiet Christmas in Danbury—only the drip of the late rain and the crack of the dryfish firecracker marred the peacefulness of the festive occasion.

(An Editorial.)

## WHY STANDS HITLER BY WHILE ENGLAND AND GREECE SMASH ITALY?—WHITHER ARE THE GERMAN DIVISIONS MOVING?— LET AMERICA USE ITS MACHINERY AND SAVE THE BOYS

Hitler's divisions are moving into Romania. His army there, has been large, now may be 4 or 5 hundred thousands.

Is it to go to the assistance of Italy, now being crushed by the English and Greek armies?

If so, why has Hitler waited so long?

It would be a very easy matter for the Germans to crash through Bulgaria or Yugoslavia.

It is true these are neutral states. But when has Hitler respected neutrality? When has he hesitated to destroy a weak innocent people in his path?

Did he respect Norway, Holland, Denmark, Belgium—these were unoffending neutrals?

Hitler has a close military alliance with Mussolini—a pledge to help each other.

Why hasn't he helped his axis pal—his fellow assassin, now desperately battling for life?

Military writers say this war will be decided by gasoline. Hitler's main dependence for fuel for his bombers and submarines is Romania.

Does Hitler fear that when Italy is knocked out of the war that Britain will be enabled, from tremendously nearer bases, to bomb the oil wells to destruction? Is this why he moves a hundred trains of men and munitions to the oil center?

That is a theory and quite a tenable one, perhaps.

But is there not another?

What about the great Enigma of the war—Russia?

Does Hitler fear that if he gets his hands too full in the Balkans, while Churchill is entertaining him in the west—that Stalin will strike?

Hitler knows that his Balkan "influences" have spread about as far as Russia wants them to spread, and that Russia has uncouthed millions of manpower crouching for the spring when Stalin says "go".

What about Turkey who says she has two million bayonets for whom dares to cross her border? And Turkey is an ally of Russia.

Is this why Hitler has hesitated?

And why doesn't Stalin say "go?" Is it because Stalin fears if he gets too busy with Germany that Japan will strike?

There are many head-aching complications to this world tragedy now being enacted over there. No man can clearly understand.

In the meantime the defense machinery of America is beginning to whiz. In the meantime more and more and more help is being sent to the island kingdom which all sensible men know is fighting our fight.

Let our efforts be doubled and trebled and quadrupled until this nation is secure from the terror that looks at us across the sea.

The latest thing from Washington is a proposition to utilize the surplus facilities of our automotive plants to produce planes within six months up to 500 a day.

We conscript our boys, millions strong. They are ready to do and die.

Are industry, wealth, dollars worth more than our boys?

Let us do this thing. Let us use the machinery, the oil, the steel, the food, the gold, of America to the fullest measure that our boys may be saved.

## Harvey Wilson Dies in Crash Near Madison

J. Harvey Wilson, aged 51, member of a prominent Rockingham county family, was instantly killed and four other persons were injured, two seriously, in a head-on collision between two cars three miles east of Madison late Thursday afternoon.

Those injured were: Everette Lee Rierson of Madison, Route 2, and Harvey Berry of Stokesdale, whose conditions were regarded as serious last night at Leaksville Hospital; James Martin and Obie Joyce, both of Madison, cuts and bruises.

## Stories Of Stokes County Hunters

The new feature recently added to the Reporter, recounting interesting stories of our Stokes county hunters, is proving quite popular with those of our readers who are fond of hunting. All hunters are invited to send in their reports, always sticking close to truth and facts.

The latest report is received from Mr. Alex Southern of Flatshoal community, Germanton, Route 1, as follows.

It was several years ago that Mr. Southern began to have trouble in his henhouse, which a large "big owl" visited each night. The owl would carry off a chicken almost every night, so that Mr. Southern finally decided to watch for the night hawk with his gun, and he had no sooner hid himself in a clump of bushes than the big owl suddenly swooped down and entered the henhouse before Mr. Southern could shoot. It was a bright moonlight night. Suddenly the owl flew out with a loud scream and a white object in his claws.

"Durn my hide if he didn't get another one," exclaimed Mr. Southern, "and I was too slow to shoot."

Suddenly he saw the big owl, which had flown high up toward the sky, stop, flutter and then drop like a ball out in the field a hundred yards away.

"Well, I'll be durned," exclaimed Alex, "if he ain't fell to the ground."

Holding his gun, he ran quick as he could out in the stubble field, where he saw the big owl with a weasel holding him by the throat.

Both the owl and the weasel were dead.

Alex ran quickly back to the henhouse where he saw 29 hens lying under the roost with their throats cut.

## Jail Not Full

Jailor Henderson Flinchum thinks maybe the people are trying to do better. This is past Christmas and only five prisoners

## SPECIAL TERM FOR JANUARY 13?

**STOKES AUTHORITIES REQUEST GOVERNOR HOEY TO ORDER EXTRA COURT TO TRY THE CASE OF STATE VS. CRAIG AND OTHER ACTIONS — NO COURT FOR JANUARY 6— JUDGE OLIVE WOULD PROBABLY HOLD TERM.**

Gov. Clyde R. Hoey has been petitioned by Stokes authorities to call a special term of Stokes court for January 13, 1941.

It was pointed out to the Governor that whereas the docket for the January 6 term would have been very light, and that moreover it had been found that this January 6 term would conflict with a term in an adjoining county having a very heavy docket, the January 6 term had been called off.

Further that now since the Craig-Watkins trial, being a capital case, might consume several days.

This situation would naturally result in a very congested docket for the regular 1-week term of criminal court in April, which would be our next court.

The Governor has not at this writing been heard from, but it is almost certain that he will designate Monday, January 13, 1941, for a special term.

In case of a special term, Solicitor Scott upon inquiry from the Reporter as to what judge would preside, answered, "Probably Judge Hubert Olive of Lexington."

Sheriff John Taylor stated that in case of the special term, the same jury previously drawn to serve at the January 6 term, would serve for the January 13 term, provided the judge did not order a special venire.

The regular April term of Stokes court consists of two weeks, the first for the trial of criminal cases, the second for civil actions.

Clerk of Court J. Watt Tuttle says that if no special term is ordered, that the docket for the April term will be very heavy.

## Deaths

Frank Hawkins, aged 79, died this week at Sandy Ridge.

Mrs. Amanda Priddy, aged 89, widow of Geo. H. Priddy, died at Lawsonville this week.

Eugene Monroe Harrison, aged 3 months, died this week at Vade Mecum.

## Big Meat

Some fine porkers have been killed in this section. Biggest we hear of is 575 by Henderson Flinchum. Of course Houston Loftis has some heavy statistics, but he is afraid if it gets in the paper he might have too much company.

George Sherill of Shelby was in town Tuesday. Mr. Sherill was located here.