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DR. PEACOCK ESCAPES FROM PRISON

Was Sentenced to Serve Life Sentence in Criminal Insane Department

Raleigh, Aug. 30.—Hacking his way through an inch of steel bar and swinging down from his cell window on the third floor of the State prison on a rope of five bed sheets, Dr. J. W. Peacock, committed for the rest of his life to the criminal insane department of the prison following his acquittal of murder of J. E. Taylor, chief of police of Thomasville, made his escape yesterday morning some time between midnight and dawn.

Scribbled regret that the haste of his departure did not permit him to say goodbye to Deputy Warden Bridgers, and the request that his books be packed up and sent to his wife in Thomasville, and that Bridgers himself take his rocking chair, is all that Peacock left behind him except the five sheets dangling outside of the window and a piece of his hack-saw an inch long.

Hastily organized pursuit tracked the fugitive doctor across the woods west of the prison and lost him somewhere beyond the new site of the State Blind school. Nobody saw him go, and nobody yet knows whither he went. Superintendent George Ross Pou has offered a reward of \$400 for his capture, and has broadcasted descriptive circulars all over the State. Peacock left no clue in his note, which follows:

"Dear Bridgers—I hate to go on my vacation without saying goodbye, but my extreme haste makes it impossible. Please pack my books and things and send to my wife. The rocking chair I give to you. May see you next spring if not sooner. Best wishes, J. W. P."

The note was written on the back of an envelope. The envelope had been addressed to Dr. Peacock from Thomasville and was mailed there at 6 o'clock August 15. Prison officials said that the letter was written Dr. Peacock by his wife. It is addressed to "835 West Morgan street." The note was found lying on the bare mattress from which the sheets had been stripped.

Where Dr. Peacock got the saw with which he hacked his way through the heavy steel bars is not known to Warden Busbee or Superintendent Pou. Utmost precaution has been observed to prevent him from receiving such things. His letters have been opened, his chewing tobacco has been examined, his loaves of bread have been broken open. All of his many visitors have been entertained in the presence of guards.

Peacock was a tremendous reader, and many books came to his prison house. The saw was not over eight inches long, and it is believed by prison authorities that the instrument came into the prison concealed in the covers of a book. No examination has yet been made of his considerable library. Five bed sheets in a cell are not unusual, it was said. Otherwise Dr. Peacock might have got hurt dropping down.

The escape was discovered at daylight when someone outside the prison observed the sheets dangling down against the walls of the insane wing of the prison. Peacock's cell was in the southwest corner on the third floor. The window through which he escaped is on the south side, overlooking the high prison wall, and courtyard where the insane prisoners are exercised daily.

Forty feet or more separate the window from the ground. Evidently the doctor swung down, and dropped over the top of the prison wall that is 15 feet high. A guardhouse surmounts the wall about 20 feet from the prison and a ladder leads down outside. No guard is stationed there at night. Once outside his window Dr. Peacock had little difficulty in getting away from the prison.

Guards are perpetually on duty in the corridors of the insane department. The doors to the cells are of solid construction instead of the barred type, and the prisoners are not under observation. Peacock could hear the walking of the guard outside his door and evidently suspended operations when he came within hearing. His saw was broken at his work.

Peacock is described as follows in the broadcast circulars: "Age, 48; height, 6 ft.; hair, dark sandy; slightly gray over temples; eyes, hazel blue; large pupils; face, narrow, thin; complexion, sallow; weight, 147; burnt scar on top of head; occupation, physician; nativity, North Carolina; education, college graduate."

Peacock came to the prison June

21, 1921. Taylor was shot to death on the streets of Thomasville April 23, 1921. Peacock fired first with a shot gun from his office window as the police chief was crossing the street, and then, fearing that he had not killed his man, rushed down and emptied an automatic pistol into the policeman's body as he lay dying in the street.

Brought before the jury, Peacock put up a plea of temporary insanity. The jury took the word of his alienists but went further and declared him out and out insane. The trial lasted two weeks, with the verdict that Peacock was insane, but not guilty of first degree murder. They committed him to the criminal insane department of the prison for life, and a few days later he was brought here to begin serving his sentence.

Taylor incurred the enmity of the doctor through his activity in suppressing the liquor traffic. Peacock is said to have been involved in some liquor transactions. Later Peacock's garage was burned, and the doctor accused the policeman of having kindled the fire. Peacock is said to have been a man of very violent temper.

Peacock presented little appearance of insanity in prison. He is profoundly intellectual in appearance, of a very polished manner, and never at any time caused his keepers the slightest trouble. Not even the continued association with the helplessly insane seemed to disturb him. Much of his time he spent in his cell reading. He had many visitors.

Recently there have been rumors of pardons, and even of legislative action to free him from the prison, but evidently the doctor did not believe much in them. He has gone and without a trace behind him. Prison officials scout the idea that he had confederates waiting outside for him. Police throughout the State have been asked to keep a close watch for him.

NO TRACE LEFT BY DR. PEACOCK

One Official Says He Believes Friends On Outside Hurried Him Away

Raleigh, Sept. 1.—Absence of any tidings from Dr. James Walter Peacock, after the second day of flight, moved Piedmonters who are here this week to an observation that may help none in his recapture, but will give romance to the escape.

Dr. Peacock's extra supply of bed-clothing, which furnished him the necessary material that finally let him down from the third floor, struck many people here as strange. But the explanation which appeals most to the imagination comes from one in official life here.

It is his opinion that Peacock escaped with a confederate on the outside who was waiting in an automobile. Then after the dash of a hundred miles or more, this official believes that a friend of Peacock met the prisoner with an aeroplane and that the two flew to Mexico. This weird story is backed up by the fact that Dr. Peacock has an intimate friend who owns an aeroplane.

Moreover, it is the judgment of this official who hesitates to attack those responsible for Peacock, that the Thomasville man will go to another state, take up his residence there and fight extradition on the same ground that John Armstrong Chaloner and Harry Kendall Thaw fought it. Once placed in another state without any crime to urge as the basis for extradition, it is entirely probable that Peacock could take up his residence in another commonwealth and successfully resist extradition. More than one lawyer has declared that if he were Peacock's counsel he would recommend that procedure.

Perhaps no man in the state's prison ever had less general sympathy lavished on him. The record of the prisoner while here was as good as any man's, but the public always doubted the righteousness of a jury verdict which acquitted Peacock of moral or legal wrong-doing. It was this public revulsion which so soon destroyed the propaganda to free the physician. And the discouragement incident to that campaign told greatly on the impatient inmate of the criminal insane ward.

A Pronounced Success

The uniform success that has attended the use of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy in the relief and cure of bowel complaints, both for children and adults, has brought it into almost universal use, so that it is practically without a rival and as everyone who has used it knows, it is without an equal.

STRANGE NARRATIVE OF A CHURCH LOCATION

Barkeeper Wouldn't Sell Lot But Providence Placed Building There Anyhow
(Monroe Journal)

The National Brain Power Magazine, in the September issue, is publishing "True Ghost Stories." Following is one submitted by Mr. Amos Milton Stack, Jr., of Monroe, N. C.

The honesty of this writer is so evident that we feel the letter will speak for itself, amazing as the story undoubtedly is:

You may not consider the narrative which I submit as a ghost story, but it contains that element of the supernatural that will give scientists something to think about.

About forty years ago, the members of the Methodist church in the little town of Swanquarter, North Carolina, decided to build a new church. Swanquarter is in Hyde county, in the eastern part of the State, and is on Swanquarter Bay. The bay partially divides the town. After raising the necessary funds to build the church, the Methodists decided to try to buy a beautiful lot located directly across the bay from the old site for the location of the new church. It happened that a barkeeper owned the site selected, and he refused to consider any offers for the property, so they had to build the church on the old site.

At that time, Swanquarter was often flooded by the high tides from the bay, and immediately after the church was erected there came a tidal wave that swept the town and flooded the entire business and most of the residential district. Then came the miracle that will never be forgotten by the people of eastern North Carolina. The rising waters swept the new church from its foundations and carried it across the bay. The hand of God seemed to guide the course of the structure, for it moved through streets and past groves of trees without striking an obstacle until it finally rested, with the front facing the street, on the beautiful lot owned by the barkeeper. When the waters subsided it was found that it could not have been placed better if it had been done by human agencies. The barkeeper was so impressed that he went before the members of the Church Board and told them that they could now have the lot free because it was the will of God that the church should be there.

This story is absolutely true and I invite any one who doubts its authenticity to write to the mayor, or the clerk of the court, or any city official or to any preacher now residing in Swanquarter and find out the facts from them.

My grandfather, Rev. J. S. Nelson was later the presiding elder in that district and he preached in the church very often after it had been swept by the tides to the beautiful lot across the bay. My mother has also been there and attended services in that church.

SUPERINTENDENT BROOKS FAVORS CONSOLIDATION

Would Mean Large Increase in Number of Pupils Passing Through High School

Raleigh, Aug. 24.—"In one county there are 1,800 children in the elementary grades of our one and two-teacher schools, but only 60 passed the seventh grade last year," Dr. E. C. Brooks points out in a booklet just issued championing the cause of school consolidation.

"The total number of graduates annually of the seventh grade is not sufficient to provide more than one good high school for the whole county," he said. "But if the districts were better organized they ought to send up to the high school from 300 to 400 graduates instead of only 60."

Superintendent Brooks looks on an educational system as one starting at the first grade and running through high school. The elementary grades do not suffice for him, and he thinks every child should have the opportunity of high school training. Consequently, he is making a strenuous drive for consolidation in the rural districts which, as he illustrates in his booklet, would turn 300 to 400 children into the high school where only 60 now go.

Even with consolidation many of the smaller schools could be efficiently continued, his booklet points out, in the way of contributing a superabundance of argument for the system.

ANOTHER PAYMENT TO CO-OPERATIVES SOON

Second Cash Payment For Tobacco Will Be Received By Growers Who Expedite Delivery

Raleigh, Aug. 30.—Such successful sales have been made by the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association to the important leaf dealers and manufacturers that cash advances have been increased on the deliveries of tobacco by South Carolina members and a second cash payment will be made in the near future, provided the members increase their deliveries sufficiently within the next two weeks.

The system of marketing which started smoothly at the August opening of the co-operative warehouses in South Carolina and Eastern North Carolina is now in perfect working order and can handle very heavy deliveries, according to T. G. Watkins, manager of the warehouses for the association.

In a letter mailed this week to all South Carolina members, M. O. Wilson, secretary of the association urges the growers to aid in hastening the second advance by delivering as rapidly as possible. Secretary Wilson says:

"Our members have delivered to the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association in the South Carolina belt ten million pounds, but as the sales department has made these sales and can handle your tobacco as rapidly as you will bring it in we desire that you make your deliveries as rapidly as possible. If you will make the delivery of your tobacco promptly you will have rendered the association and yourself a service, for you will enable your officers to make a second payment at an early date and we will save some expense in handling the tobacco."

On the new appraisal that has been made by the banker committee the advance will be greater than it has been on what has been delivered, but the growers that have delivered will receive the benefit of this advance in the second payment, so that if you will make the deliveries as early as you can get the tobacco in proper condition it will mean an early distribution of the next payment.

Enthusiasm for the new marketing plan is rapidly spreading from South Carolina and the east to the old belt of North Carolina and Virginia, where increasing numbers of growers are joining the co-operative every week.

N. C. MILLS MAY SHUT DOWN SOON

Fuel Supply Short With No Coal Coming In; Those Using Power Safe

Charlotte, Aug. 31.—While the possibility of an enforced shut-down of many textile mills in the Carolinas within the next two or three weeks looms larger daily, most of the mills in the Piedmont section of the two states operate exclusively on hydro-electric power and therefore are not menaced by the growing scarcity of fuel, according to men familiar with the situation.

Many of the mills operated on hydro-electric power can use some coal, but comparatively little, it was pointed out. E. C. Dwell, secretary of the Chadwick-Hoskins Company said tonight their plants have enough coal on hand to last only two or three weeks. According to Winston D. Adams, secretary of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, this condition is typical of that of the electrically driven mills of this section generally.

It was said by these officials that virtually no coal is being received by any mills in this section, and unless the situation is relieved in the next week or two curtailment of operation at many mills will be necessary. Only one mill, the Lancaster Cotton Mills, of Lancaster, South Carolina, thus far has been reported closed on account of the coal shortage. This company employed about 1,500 workers. It closed last Saturday.

Of the 1,000 or more textile plants of all kinds in the two Carolinas, 848, mostly in the Piedmont section, use hydro-electric power exclusively, while 296 use steam power only and 262 use both electric and steam power.

No general shut-down of electrically driven plants is expected, according to local textile workers.

THE 500 SOLDIERS LEAVE SPENCER

On Duty 13 Days—Cost The State \$26,000.00

Salisbury, Aug. 31.—The soldiers are gone. They did not get away according to the official order of movement on account of a scarcity of train equipment, but they all got away during the day. And Camp Morrison is deserted. The boys were here 13 days and the cost of maintaining Camp Morrison, with its 500 soldiers, was said to be around \$26,000.

Early this morning Colonel Scott took his cavalry troops and visited East Spencer for the purpose of satisfying himself before leaving town that negroes who pass in and out from work in the Spencer shop properly were carrying pistols as reported or were not carrying them. The troops searched every man and found not a single weapon.

Before leaving town today Colonel Scott expressed himself as mightily well pleased with conditions which he considered as very encouraging.

He came here, he said, with the knowledge that a delicate situation was to be handled. He had done the best he could and was happy to know that no serious trouble had occurred during the sojourn of his troops. He wanted to express publicly his thanks for the courteous and cordial treatment accorded himself and his men and also for the splendid co-operation they received from the local officials and the public generally. He especially appreciated the co-operation he had received from the heads of the crafts at Spencer.

Colonel Scott's soldiers won the admiration of the community from the first and their conduct here was such as to make friends of all those with whom they came in contact.

The boys broke camp this morning and the Mt. Gilead company was the first to get started, leaving at 9:45 via Albemarle. Others followed as fast as train equipment could be had, the last to leave being the cavalry troops from Hickory and Lincolnton, who got away in the afternoon.

Dr. C. W. Armstrong, county health officer, accompanied by Mayor Strachan, of Salisbury, officials of Spencer, and a representative of the striking shopmen, made a thorough inspection of the Southern's shops at Spencer and this morning issued a statement signed by each man in the party setting forth sanitary conditions in the shops were as good as could be expected, no evidence of any sickness outside of minor ailments.

THE SPANISH KING HAD TO STEP TO ONE SIDE

Miss Dickey Leaves Monarch Standing Alone On Deauville Dance Floor

New York, Sept. 2.—An embarrassing incident on the crowded ballroom floor of the Casino at Deauville, France, a month ago, in which the king of Spain was left standing by his dancing partner, Miss Katherine Dickey, of Atlanta, while she hurried to greet her father, James I. Dickey, a director of the Atlanta National bank was explained by the young woman today on her arrival on the Mauretania.

The royal consternation at being told to "wait a minute" in the middle of a dance and suddenly deserted, was assuaged, however, when Miss Dickey sought out Prince Nicholas, second son of the king of Rumania, and induced him to convey her sincere regrets. The king accepted the situation good-naturedly and remarked to Prince Nicholas on the democratic ideas of American girls.

The story goes that King Alfonso sought Miss Dickey as a dancing partner and dispatched his secretary to arrange the formal introductions. At the height of the gaiety, Miss Dickey caught sight of her dad, and, wishing to tell him something of "great importance" stopped in her tracks and softly told the king to "wait a minute." She dashed among the other dancers in the rush for her father, while those who observed the puzzled expression on Alfonso's face as he was left alone, gasped with astonishment. When Miss Dickey returned the king was missing and realizing the embarrassing situation caused by her thoughtlessness, she successfully engaged Prince Nicholas as an apology bearer.

"Don't make me ridiculous," Miss Dickey said to reporters, "but the king was so like us Americans I felt I could ask him to wait a minute, not thinking at all of the rigorous etiquette that surrounds a European monarch."

TWIN CITY GETS IN CO-OP COLUMN

Arrangements Made to Receive Tobacco Grown By Members

Raleigh, Sept. 2.—Winston-Salem, the last of the big markets to decline dealings with the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association, will become a receiving point for tobacco of the members of the co-operative this fall and the plant now under construction for the association will have sufficient space ready for co-operative marketing on October 1st, according to announcement from Raleigh headquarters yesterday.

As the sign-up of tobacco to the marketing association is very heavy in the counties which surround Winston-Salem the organized growers of Western Carolina are rejoicing in the acquisition of another important delivery point.

Between four and five million pounds of tobacco were delivered to the Co-operative Warehouses in the Eastern and South Carolina belts last week, according to reports reaching headquarters, from C. O. Dixon and A. V. Bobbitt, warehouse managers of the Eastern and Southern districts of the association. Over 3,000,000 pounds were delivered in South Carolina and a million and a half reached the Eastern Co-operative markets during the past week.

Increasing enthusiasm among the growers is reported at all delivery points, particularly in South Carolina, where a number of co-operative markets during their first nine days of operation have paid the organized growers higher averages on their first cash advances than they received as final payments for their tobacco last year. W. E. Lee, field service representative for South Carolina cities, the case of Darlington, where 316,449 pounds of tobacco were sold at an average of \$4.63 on the Auction markets in 1921, and where members of the Co-operative Association delivered 824,392 pounds at an average of \$4.94 during the first nine days of operation by the association.

Conway is another market which shows a net gain to the organized growers over their average of \$6.58 under the Auction System, for the Co-operative has paid an average of \$7.20 as its first advance at this point. Lamar, Manning, Marion, Lynchburg and Pamlico are other markets of the South Carolina belt which have paid the organized growers more money on their first cash advances than they received during the first nine days of delivery last year, according to this report.

The assurance that heavy deliveries by the South Carolina growers will hasten a second cash advance is expected to increase the receipts of the association next week.

TURKS OVERLOOK COWS IN CELLAR

Near East Family Saves Two of Herd By Hiding Them

Chicago, Aug. 29.—By driving two cows down a flight of steps into a cellar, the mother of a Chicago man saved them from confiscation, by the Turks, according to a report just received at Near East Relief headquarters.

The two Jerseys are all that remain of the 8000 cattle in the little Caucasus farm village where the mother of Bagdad Tor Haroutunian, 1801 West Van Buren Street, lives.

Mr. Haroutunian's family is descended from the founder of Kmalchak, and before the war it was one of the most prosperous in the Arpa-Tchal Valley. Now the two cows are its sole fortune. The family home is in ruins and the mother, brother, sister and nephew of Mr. Haroutunian are living in one room in the only one of their numerous rental possessions still intact. Arganas Tor Haroutunian, a brother, told relief workers that among the family's losses was a bag containing 10 pounds of gold.

The cows make the family the only one in the village not entirely dependent upon aid by the Near East Relief. Mr. Haroutunian said that the village had been reduced from 180 families of 1100 persons to 850 individuals. Once the farmers of the place planted 170 tons of grain annually. But of their 1000 head of oxen and horses there remains only six oxen to plow for all. They were able to obtain but one ton of seed for planting and food this year. The farmers of the valley must depend upon American aid another winter for the majority will not be able to provide an adequate food supply without such assistance.