



Guard William R. Anderson

Guard Says Prisoner Was 'Agitated' Into Shooting

From his hospital bed where he is slowly recovering from a serious gunshot wound in the chest, Macon Prison Guard William R. Anderson charges the young prisoner who shot him in a scuffle last week was "agitated into it" by other prisoners on the road gang.

Camp Supt. John E. Cutshall confirmed this Monday afternoon in disclosing that two prisoners have admitted to goading Roy L. Scarborough into jumping the guard in an escape attempt Wednesday morning of last week in the Cat Creek section. Two others also are being questioned, he said.

Attempts Suicide
A suicide attempt by one of the two who confessed has been reported. However, Supt. Cutshall on Monday said he does not put much stock in the attempt "because it's hard to determine if he was serious in his intentions".

Those who prodded Scarborough to attack the guard are facing aiding and abetting charges in the shooting, Supt. Cutshall said. Their names were not disclosed.

The 17-year-old Scarborough, who was sentenced in Buncombe County for false pretense and larceny, will be formally charged with "assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious bodily wounds not resulting in death", the prison official reported.

Are Investigating
Meanwhile, an investigation into the shooting incident is being continued by the superintendent and his staff.

Because of Mr. Anderson's serious condition they have not obtained his statement as to what happened. He is not allowed visitors.

Witnesses Incident
A state highway department foreman, Roy Womack, witnessed part of the incident on the Jack Cane Road about 11 a. m., but not the actual shooting.

The guard and the prisoner rolled over a bank in the scuffle and were out of sight when

the guard's .38 calibre pistol fired and wounded him. The guard also had a rifle, it is reported.

In a written statement made before prison officials, Scarborough said the pistol went off accidentally.

'Went Crazy'
He said: "I was working close to Mr. Anderson. I don't know what happened. I just went crazy all of a sudden and grabbed Mr. Anderson from the front. We started to scuffle. I pulled his gun out of his holster and while we scuffled the gun went off accidentally. I did not fire the pistol. When the pistol fired I turned Mr. Anderson loose and gave up. All I wanted was my freedom. I was trying to escape but did not shoot him."

In his statement, Mr. Womack said the boy rushed the guard from about 12 feet, "grabbing him", and the two disappeared down the bank. He said he heard the shot and that the guard came back up the bank and told him he had been shot.

The wounded man was rushed to Angel Hospital by Jack Cabe. Mr. Womack guarded the prisoner for about two hours afterwards and reported he had no trouble.

Scarborough has about three months more to serve on his present sentence, according to Supt. Cutshall.

"As soon as we're able to obtain Mr. Anderson's statement," he said, "we'll be able to piece together a clearer account of what took place."

Mr. Anderson has been with the prison camp about 18 months, 12 of them as a regular guard.

The bullet entered his chest on the upper right side and emerged near the left shoulder blade without striking any vital organs.

He has received several blood transfusions and yesterday (Wednesday) was reported still in a serious condition, but improving.

Resigns As Agent Here

James G. Flanagan, assistant county agent here for more than a year and a half, has resigned.

He left this week-end to attend summer school at the University of Georgia, Athens, in preparation for enrolling in veterinarian's school there in the fall.

Mr. Flanagan, a Clemson College graduate and native of Clover, S. C., has been here since September, 1954.

His wife, Mrs. Carolyn B. Flanagan, taught at Cowee School this past year.

County Agent T. H. Fagg yesterday (Wednesday) said Mr. Flanagan's successor has not been picked.

AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

Macon's Methodist rural worker, Miss Margaret Wilson, is at Lake Junaluska this week (June 18-23) as a counselor for the conference senior M. Y. F. workshop.

WILL STAGE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

County-Wide Observance To Include Parade And Field Events For All

A county-wide Fourth of July celebration will be staged this year in Franklin.

The day's program is being organized by the Franklin Jaycees, with the assistance of other organizations.

Plans now call for a parade, beauty contest, and field events, in the morning, and a Little League double-header in the afternoon.

Field events, including the greasy pole, and the ball games are set for East Franklin School.

All activities will be free, according to the Jaycee planning committee headed by Robert C. (Bob) Carpenter.

Prizes will be raised by the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.

The beauty contest will be handled by the Franklin Junior Woman's Club, of which Mrs. Margie Cabe is president.

Orr Resigns As Director Of FHS Band

T. A. Orr, band director at Franklin High for the past two years, has resigned.

He has accepted a director's job at Glen Alpine High School, near Morganton. He and his family probably will move there in the latter part of August.

A native of Asheville, Mr. Orr was band director in Elkin before coming here to rebuild the high school's band after it was virtually wiped out in the gymnasium fire.

Miss Cleaveland Dies In Conn.

Miss Eva G. Cleaveland, of Bridgeport, Conn., and Highlands, died last Thursday afternoon in Bridgeport.

The property on which the Highlands Community Hospital was built was donated by Miss Cleaveland in memory of her sister, Mrs. Mabel Hays.

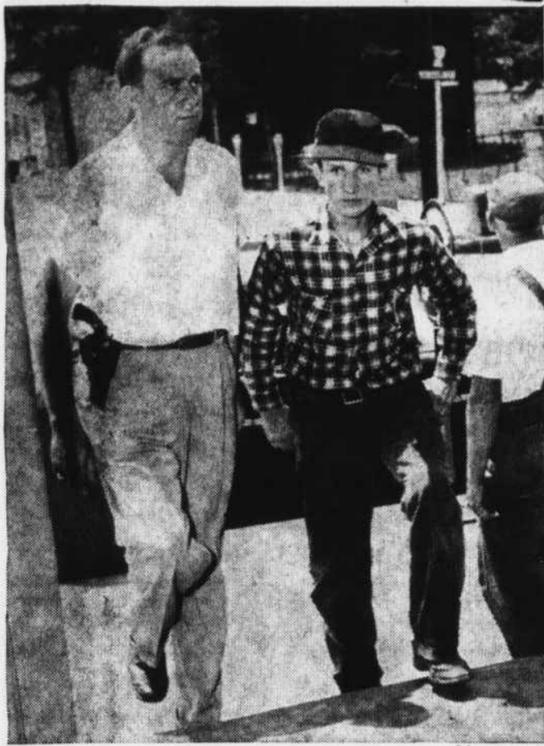
Another sister, Mrs. W. N. Cook, lives in Franklin. Mr. and Mrs. Cook attended services in Bridgeport on Monday.

Miss Cleaveland was one of the charter members of the Business and Professional Club in Bridgeport and at one time was secretary to the well-known song writer, Miss Fanny J. Crosby. Until retirement 10 years ago, she worked at the First National Bank in Bridgeport.

RUMMAGE SALE SLATED
A rummage sale will be held Saturday, beginning at 7 o'clock, by the Cullasaja Community 4-H Club, it has been announced.

COMMUNITY MEETING

The Higdonville Community Development Organization will hold a business meeting tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock at the picnic ground, it has been announced.



ENTERING the courthouse Tuesday morning for a preliminary hearing is James Dudley Mathis, who is charged with the rifle murder of his father on June 12. Deputy Sheriff Newell Pendergrass escorts the boy, who was bound over to Superior Court.

Stott Named Head Coach; Pattillo Will Assist Him

Richard D. (Dick) Stott has been named head athletic coach at Franklin High School for the coming year.

He has been a teacher-coach at the high school for five years, serving as an assistant football coach and head coach of baseball.

As his assistant, the new

head coach will have G. R. (Pat) Pattillo, former F. H. S. backfield star, who was graduated this spring from Western Carolina College. He played at fullback in both high school and college.

The new coaches plan to run the Panthers from the split-T this coming season.

Good Crowds Are Attending Revival Services Nightly

Good crowds, averaging about 175 nightly, have been attending the interdenominational services at Friendship Tabernacle in Franklin.

The series opened Sunday and closes tomorrow (Friday) night. Guest minister this year is

the Rev. Herman F. Duncan, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Lenoir.

A special choir of about 70 voices from over the county sings each night under the direction of Lowell McKee. Mrs. Haughton Williams is pianist.

4-H Clubbers Head For Camp

Surrounded by suitcases, bedrolls, and other items of travel 29 Macon County 4-H clubbers waved goodbye to parents Monday afternoon at the Agricultural Building and left by bus for a week at Camp Schaub, near Waynesville.

The local campers were accompanied by assistant agents Roy W. Isley and Mrs. Jessie D. Cabe. Miss Nell Ramsey, student trainee with the home agent, also will spend the week at the camp.

Eight boys and 21 girls boarded the bus for the trip.

The boys were Wayne Guest, Douglas Slagle, Charles Slagle, Robert Enloe, Ronald Harper, Billy Davenport, David Enloe, and Jimmy Teague. Girls included Brenda Cunningham, Suzanne Cunningham, Linda Ledford, Patsy Cunningham, Jane Malonee, Ann Fagg, Linda Leatherman, Carolyn Setser, Patricia Shope, Peggy Joan Pruett, Patsy Corbin, Peggy Dills, Sue Matthews, Linda Elaine Raby, Jane Byrd, Joyce Cole, Carol Watkins, Virginia Boyd, Martha Ann Blaine, Vianne Keener, and Helen Cochran.

Boy Bound Over In Rifle Death

A stoic 17-year-old Cowee youth Tuesday was bound over to Superior Court on a charge of murdering his father with a .22 rifle on a mountainside above their home on June 12.

At a preliminary hearing, Justice of the Peace C. C. Stamey ruled the boy, James Dudley Mathis, must stand trial before the higher court when it convenes here in August.

"Somebody has done somebody dirty," the justice of the peace commented, after hearing the evidence, "but I'm not the man to say who... it's up to a jury."

The boy, who says he shot his father accidentally, thinking he was a groundhog, appeared unmoved during the proceedings and the parade of witnesses. He spoke out only once. This was an exchange with Sheriff J. Harry Thomas over the location of a poplar stump near the scene of the shooting — a point which apparently has little, or nothing, to do with the case.

A deputy sheriff found the body of the boy's father, William A. Mathis, about 71, slumped over his 12-gauge shotgun near a groundhog hole, a .22 calibre bullet wound in the left side of his head. The body was about a mile above the Mathis home in the Matlock Branch section.

The officer went to the Mathis home about noon, following a report by a neighbor that something had happened to the elder Mathis. The boy, who had been sent up the mountain by his mother to find his father earlier, returned and reported that "something is wrong". Officers say he did not disclose he had shot his father, who was on the mountain hunting groundhogs. Mathis, a farmer, lived for nearly two hours, the officers reported.

'Twisted Stories'
On the stand at the preliminary hearing, Deputy Sheriff Newell Pendergrass said the youth has "twisted his stories" each time he has been questioned. The deputy was the first officer on the scene of the shooting. He said James first denied the shooting and later said it was accidental.

In later testimony, Sheriff Thomas said the youth was unable to tell where he stood when he shot.

Says 'Impossible'
At the point where the boy says he stood, the sheriff testified it would be "almost impossible" for the bullet to have inflicted the wound it did. The point is about 15 feet lower in elevation than where Mathis was found. The sheriff said the bullet ranged downward in the man's head, lodging near the right ear.

However, the sheriff said evidence was found to indicate someone had stood on an elevation about even with the body. He said footprints were found there and that it looked like in one spot that a person had jumped, a foot slipping about six inches on a rock.

Sheriff Thomas said at this point, about two feet lower than the other, the whole figure of a man could be seen where the body of Mathis was found.

At the county jail, following the coroner's inquest, the officer quoted the boy as saying he shot his father accidentally.

Bad Eyesight
He said the boy blamed the accident on bad eyesight. However, the sheriff said this story was exploded when he took the boy to a local doctor for an eye examination. As the doctor pretended to make adjustments, "his eyesight improved", the officer testified, although he said he was unable to see a large letter at the start about 15 feet away.

When he asked him why he made up the eyesight story, the sheriff said he answered, "I was just studying about something."

Hanging Out Clothes
Mrs. Fred Messer, one of the last to see Mathis alive, said she was in her yard hanging out clothes on the morning of the shooting when the boy walked up to her. "He was trembling," she said, "and he told me something was wrong with his daddy... that he wouldn't speak to him."

She said the boy asked her to drive him to the store, but she told him to go to tell Mr. Messer what had happened. It was Mr. Messer who came to town and reported to the sheriff's department that something was amiss at the Mathis place.

Mrs. Messer said she saw James several more times during the morning and that once, in the presence of his mother and others, he said he had shot his father accidentally, but "could shoot more if he had to". She said he twice told his mother to "shut up", and quoted him as saying "third time's a charm" to her.

W. T. Laws, a member of the coroner's jury, testified the boy once said he fired his gun from a poplar stump and later changed it to a locust tree.

It was brought out earlier in testimony that there is no poplar stump near the scene.

WOMEN WILL MEET

Women of the Nequassa Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will meet tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock at the new Masonic Temple on Church Street, according to Mrs. W. G. Crawford, worthy matron.

Late News and Briefs

There's something about Macon County that grips people. Once they've lived here, most people who move away always want to come back.

Witness the case of the Rev. Ebenezer Myers, retired Methodist minister. A Macon County native, he has lived away from this county for some 70 years. Yet one of his fondest dreams is about to come true — he's coming back "home" for a visit this week-end.

Moreover, though he's 90, he will preach twice on Sunday — at the Iotla Methodist Church at 10 a. m., and at the Franklin church an hour later!

GOVERNOR HERE

Gov. Luther H. Hodges was at Rainbow Springs Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week on a brief vacation. The governor, who was accompanied by his wife, spent most of his time fishing. He and his party stayed at the camp owned by several prominent W. N. C. men.

VACCINE AVAILABLE

Dr. Guy V. Gooding, district health officer, announced this week that any child between the ages of 6 months and 15 years may now receive the Salk anti-polio vaccine every Thursday at the local health center.

LETTING IS SLATED

The State Highway Commission will receive bids June 26 for the relocation project from Feisty Branch to Nantahala School.

MT. SINAI SINGING

The fourth Sunday sing will be held at the Mt. Sinai church beginning at 1:30 p. m., it has been announced by the sing vice-president, Glenn Reeves.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tudor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observer; and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory.

Temperatures

	FRANKLIN		
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., June 13	83	58	.45
Thursday	73	60	.15
Friday	81	61	—
Saturday	83	61	.08
Sunday	87	56	—
Monday	88	57	trace
Tuesday	84	62	.23
HIGHLANDS			
Wed., June 13	78	56	trace
Thursday	70	54	.13
Friday	71	59	1.09
Saturday	80	61	.55
Sunday	78	56	—
Monday	72	59	—
Tuesday	72	56	—
Wednesday	—	—	.18
COWEETA			
Wed., June 13	86	58	—
Thursday	72	59	—
Friday	79	58	.58
Saturday	82	60	.10
Sunday	84	51	—
Monday	86	53	.04
Tuesday	81	58	1.00

Little League Standings

Team Standings	W	L	Pct.
Jaybirds	5	1	.833
Wildcats	3	3	.500
Reddys	3	4	.428
Thunderbirds	1	4	.200
Leading Hitters			
Swan, Reddys	.696		
Yeary, Jaybirds	.615		
Higdon, Wildcats	.476		
Gibson, Thunderbirds	.428		
Leading Pitcher			
Mashburn, Jaybirds	4-0		
Week's Scores			
June 13: Wildcats, 19, Reddys, 4; Jaybirds-Thunderbirds, postponed.			
June 15: Reddys, 8, Jaybirds, 6.			
June 18: Wildcats, 9, Thunderbirds, 4.			
Coming Games			
June 22: Reddys vs Jaybirds, 5:30 p. m.			
June 25: Jaybirds vs Thunderbirds, 5:30 p. m.			



Camp-Bound 4-H Clubbers Wave Goodbye