

## Mrs. Montague Clings to Story

Accused Asheville Woman Is Probably Insane, Says Brain Specialist There

Asheville, May 17.—Nerves shattered by hours of merciless grilling, Mrs. Anna K. Montague clings to her story that Mrs. Mary R. Cooper, whom she is charged with murdering, committed suicide, and defiantly flings into a rage at the mention of the word murder.

Declaring that her home was broken up five years ago by the Ku Klux Klan, Mrs. Montague insists that she is being persecuted by the Knights of the hooded order and that the solicitor and all the officers are members of the Klan engaged in hounding her.

The statement that the prisoner's husband, Dr. S. S. Montague, of Oxford, would come to Asheville at once in an effort to have his estranged wife committed to an insane asylum, created quite a sensation here today when it was backed by a statement from Dr. Robert S. Carroll, brain specialist, for whom the nurse formerly worked, that she appeared to have symptoms of paranoia, a dangerous form of insanity.

Dr. Carroll pointed out the illusions of persecutions which the woman has indicated since her arrest as one of the strongest symptoms. Whether or not they think Mrs. Montague is a mad woman, the officers who are working on the case decided to say today.

A new and sensational turn was taken by the case today when it was revealed that Mrs. Montague had been receiving attention from a man in recent weeks and that on the night of the murder a car was parked during the early morning hours in front of the Cooper home which remained shrouded in the darkness of mystery and death. The police believe that Mrs. Cooper was struck on the head with some heavy blunt instrument and that after she fell a second blow was landed on the back of her head from the same weapon.

In reconstructing in theory the brutal crime, the officers are convinced that the blows on the fingers of the left and middle fingers of Mrs. Cooper were inflicted by the second blow.

That the threat of the aged woman was taken out by the murderer, to throw an appearance of suicide over the affair some time after the body was thrown across the fence into the vacant lot, was also indicated by the trend of the investigation. The case apparently becomes more complicated each day but the possibility that the crime may have been committed by a man's aid created the latest sensation since the report of the autopsy which exploded the suicide theory held by the police.

Mrs. Montague took the first step in her defense today when she retained the law firm of Latta and Blackboard to defend her. The possibility that other attorneys may be called into the case by her relatives was also seen in the announcement that her husband would come here to attempt to have her adjudged insane and committed to an asylum.

## WASH. TRAMWAY BURNS

DEAD TOLL UP

One hundred and twenty-two lives were lost in the last month, according to the vital statistics of the State Board of Health, reported last week. The total was 122.

The board also estimated the loss of property at \$100,000. The board also reported that 28 deaths were caused by burns, which is a record for this time of year.

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## Marines Killed By Nicaraguans

Captain Buchanan And Private Jackson Are Slain By Guerrilla Band

Washington, May 17.—American marines in Nicaragua have suffered their first serious casualties since they were dispatched to that war-torn country last January for the announced purpose of protecting American lives and property.

Captain Richard R. Buchanan, of this city, and Private Marvin A. Jackson, of Chicago, were killed; and two other Marines wounded, the Navy was advised officially late today, when a "guerrilla band" of Nicaraguans attacked an American detachment at 2 a. m. today at La Paz Centro, near Leon.

Corporal Anthony J. Rausch, of Philadelphia, and Private William F. Simon, whose address was not given, were wounded slightly.

No further details were contained in the message, Admiral Latimer, commanding American naval forces in Nicaragua, who forwarded it, declaring he would send a lengthier report later.

The dispatch followed an earlier one from Latimer reporting an attack by a band of armed natives on the American camp at Chinendega Saturday night, and coincided with a message received by the State Department from Henry L. Stimson, personal representative of President Coolidge in Nicaragua, stating that the civil war in that country "is now definitely ended."

The Stimson message was dated today, the date he set for his departure for home after arranging a truce between the Conservatives and Liberal forces. He expressed the belief that the "way is now open for the development of Nicaragua along the lines of peace, order and ultimate self-government."

## Set Up Stations to Test Lights

Arrangements are going forward to set up stations throughout the State for testing automobile headlights in accordance with the law passed by the 1927 Legislature, which goes into effect July 1.

H. K. Witherspoon, of the Highway Commission, is making a tour of the State with John P. Lawrence, headlight expert, who is addressing motorists on the advantages to be derived from having headlights properly focused, and of ways of keeping them adjusted.

Since there is no State constabulary or other State police force to enforce this law, it will have to be carried out largely through education and co-operation. The State Highway Commission has charge of administration.

There is considerable interest being manifested by motorists on the matter of properly adjusted headlights, Mr. Witherspoon said, and meetings held throughout the State have been well attended. Mr. Witherspoon and Mr. Lawrence will leave Raleigh Thursday for Winston-Salem where they will hold a meeting Thursday night, and will work eastward, speaking in Salisbury Friday night, in Durham Saturday night, and in Goldsboro, Washington, and other towns in the eastern part of the State next week.

Stations will be maintained at filling stations or garages or other convenient places at which a charge, probably 75 cents, will be made for adjusting the lights. Small stickers for the windshield will signify that the automobile owner has complied with the law.

A similar law governing the adjustment of lights on automobiles and trucks is enforced in more than half the States in the Union.

## Unusual School Record

The record of the State Board of Education for the year ending last June shows that the average number of days of school was 180 days.

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## Don't You Want to Help?



Here is a typical group of Mississippi flood victims—a family of white tenants—driven to the levee from the lowlands. They are awaiting the arrival of a Red Cross relief boat to take them to a camp on the highlands. The Red Cross is still asking for funds.

## Sneers For Dry May 20 To Be Law Unjustified

Ramsay MacDonald Says That Prohibition Is Great Praise-worthy Event

New York, May 17.—Ramsay MacDonald, former British Prime Minister, who is just completing a month's visit to the United States, believes that prohibition is a great praise-worthy effort to keep people decent and does not merit the sneers of visitors who find it a subject for smartness.

"So many of our smart people have been over here and sneered at the prohibition law, but when I go back I am going to take the other side," he said. "It is a great effort to keep people decent and to enable them to spend their money on necessities."

While stating that his recent illness had prevented him seeing enough of the enforcement of prohibition to venture an opinion of this phase, the British Labor Leader said that he would like to see a great moral appeal to all good citizens to support the law.

"Read Plato on the sacredness of law," he said.

Mr. MacDonald, who came to the United States for an eleven day visit to renew acquaintances of a honeymoon trip many years ago, and then spent most of his time in a Philadelphia hospital with a throat affection, will leave tomorrow night for England aboard the Berengaria with his daughter Isabel. Fully recovered from his illness, but still shaky, he greeted interviewers this afternoon in a little study at the Henry Street Settlement in the lower East Side where he and his daughter are the guests of Little D. Wald, noted American social worker.

"Two things," he said, "have touched me very much; first the very cordial greetings I received from the press of all colors and parties in the United States and, second, the great personal care I had during the three weeks of my illness."

"I am tremendously impressed with the need of America and Great Britain to understand each other. I don't want alliances; I don't want agreements; I don't want entanglements of any kind, but I do want understanding."

"It is not true to say that the British people hate or are even angry with Americans. There are things a little bit difficult to understand. A Britisher blurted out his feelings about them, but underlying it all is a sincere desire to feel our arms and the arms of American interlocked now and, meeting tomorrow, great hopes and great hopes."

Mr. MacDonald said that he did not want to express an opinion on the raid by British police on Soviet House in London, because he had not been able to keep up entirely on British news. "Whatever discoveries are made, however," he continued, "must be more than trivial to justify it."

During his discussion of the British flashed some of his fighting spirit. "If I am able," he said with more vigor than he had hitherto displayed, "I will go straight from the dock at Southampton to my room at the House of Commons to take up the fight against the bill."

## CHURCH BOY

UNTIL NEXT AFTERNOON

The church boy will be back at the church at 2 p. m. tomorrow.

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## 'Please Hurry' a Woman's Cry

Glenn Barden Writes of Life As Seen In The Congo, Africa

Goldsboro, May 17.—Rev. Glenn Barden, special missionary to Congo Belge, Africa, sent out by St. Paul Methodist church of Goldsboro, in his annual report of his work over in the dark continent for the past year includes the following incident:

"Please hurry," said the native woman of the Congo, as the kind hands of the missionaries tended the fearful wound in her abdomen which she had inflicted upon herself in an agony of grief over the death of her child. With out a quiver to show the dreadful pain she was enduring, this woman, wounded unto death, trusted herself confidently to the Christian missionaries to whom she had come for help in her great suffering, and cried but only once, "Please hurry, it hurts."

For 10 hours she had been suffering unspeakable agony while undergoing the cruel treatment of the witch doctors who had simply added to her torture by their so-called cures. During all this time she had been steadily bleeding to death until the flesh around the wound was colorless from loss of blood. At last, despairing of the success of the witch doctors' treatments, relatives had bundled her up, more dead than alive, and carried her to the hospital at Wembo Nyama station, the chief station of the Methodist Episcopal mission, to be healed by the missionary doctor.

But alas, the only doctor on the station—in fact, the only doctor of the entire mission—was ill, very ill, unable to lift his head from the pillow. In Africa there is no such thing as calling for another physician—there is simply nobody else to call. A physician in Africa must doctor the sick, no matter how ill he may be himself.

Therefore, when Dr. Hamilton Moore, the missionary dentist, and the station nurse had taken the sick woman to the hospital, they went in and laid the case before the sick doctor, and he, banishing all thought of his own serious illness, gave explicit instructions for the case of the woman.

The cry of the Congo woman to the Christian missionaries to heal her physical wound is but typical of the cry that is going up from Africa to Christians of America to heal her spiritual wounds.

The "4H" emblem of the club is translated into equal training of the head, hands, heart and health, and the purpose of the organization is expressed in the following, which is memorized by each club member:

"I pledge my head to reason, my hands to service, my heart to loyalty and my health to efficiency for my home, my community, and my country."

Pasquotank was one of the five North Carolina counties which were pioneers last year in the consolidation of various boys' and girls' clubs into single functioning county units. The plan worked out so well last year that it is being adopted throughout the State this year, and everywhere is said to be winning favor.

## SCHOOL HOUSE FIRE BELIEVED INCENDIARY

Hickory, May 17.—Fire believed to be of incendiary origin destroyed the building and contents of the Peace Academy School, about three miles east of Hickory Sunday night.

When the fire was discovered the building was a mass of flames and entrance to save the furniture was impossible. School in Peace Academy was closed about two weeks ago. The building had been cleaned and locked up for the summer.

No one was supposed to have been in the academy since it was closed.

The building, a four room structure, was valued at \$10,000, on which insurance, amounting to \$7,500, was effective. None of the furniture, valued at \$1,000, was insured.

## FRESHMEN'S ANNUAL BATH CELEBRATION

Raleigh, May 16.—A bit of indignant shouting, the climax of the annual freshman's "bath" at N. C. State College, last night strated a number of wild rumors as to disturbances in the section of the college and brought numerous reports to police.

The shouting wrote finis to the annual aquatic affair, which took on the form of playing streams from three feet high on the first year men who were assembled in groups, according to dormitories, in front of the gymnasium. The costumes of the bathers were indeed varied, ranging from full street garb to gym or bathing attire or even less.

Four Business Men

First: "Hah! You call yourself a boxer. Why do I knock you block off for two cents?"

Second: "Yah! and a damnable punch for you, too!"

Conditions in Currituck Sound, and whether it will improve or improve navigation conditions. This investigation is being made by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, and it is hoped that the results will be of some value to the shipping industry.

## Melville Engulfed As Levee Quickly Breaks

## Receivers Named C. W. Horne

Temporary Receivership Order Is Returnable Saturday, May 28th.

Raleigh, May 17.—R. B. Whitley, of Wendell, and Dr. J. J. Young, of Clayton, were last night named temporary receivers for Charles W. Horne and Ashley Horne & Son following presentation of a petition by creditors to Judge W. C. Harris at Pittsboro. The order appointing temporary receivers is returnable May 28 before Judge Harris in chambers here.

The petition, presented by Biggs and Broughton on behalf of B. P. Robertson and Dr. B. A. Houtt, of Clayton, creditors, set forth belief of insolvency of the prominent Johnston county man.

Mr. Horne was present at the hearing and was represented by counsel, Abell and Shepard, of Smithfield, but did not resist issuance of the order.

The receivers will assume immediate charge of the business and will submit their report at the hearing here May 28. It was stated last night that the receivers have assurances from bankers and other creditors of co-operation, and it is felt that the affairs of Mr. Horne can be satisfactorily worked out without necessity of any bankruptcy proceedings.

## Pasquotank is Leader in Clubs

Elizabeth City, May 17.—With more members per square mile of county area than any other in the State, Pasquotank's Boys' and Girls' 4H Clubs are well in the forefront in North Carolina in activities to make rural life brighter, broader, more profitable and more interesting. There are three hundred members of 344.

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## STATE PAYS ACCOUNT

THIRTY-ONE YEARS OLD

Raleigh, May 17.—Voucher for \$12,000.04, payable to W. W. Worth, passed through the office of State Auditor Baxter Durham yesterday and was O. K'd for payment of an account held against the State for 31 years. The check was in repayment of money made good by Treasurer Worth on account of defalcation of a clerk in his office during the Russell administration.

## AWARD CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE AT MANTEO

Elizabeth City, May 17.—A great causeway and bridge project to link Manteo and Roanoke Island with the beach lands to the east, as a first step toward ultimately linking this region with the mainland, moved definitely toward early consummation the past week with the letting of contracts for the bridge itself by the board of commissioners of Dare county.

The bridge contract was let to the W. L. Jones Construction Company, of Elizabeth City, at \$38,615. Specifications call for a structure 4,300 feet long and 20 feet wide, of wood construction, with a steel draw 100 feet long.

Contract for construction of a three mile causeway to complete the connection of the beach with the island had been let earlier to H. C. Lawrence, of New Bern, at \$45,000. The causeway will be 300 feet wide at the base, sloping gently up to a roadway some 20 feet wide five feet above high tide level in Roanoke Island, which the causeway and bridge will cross.

With contracts to date totalling nearly \$135,000, it is expected that the cost of the bridge will run into many more thousands of dollars.

If the women aren't careful they'll get a rough lesson that the men will learn to take any responsibility for them.

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People of Melville, Louisiana, Barely Have Time To Reach Temporary Haven On Levee Tops; Collapse of Levee Came While Most of People Were Asleep; Weather Bureau Urges Utmost Caution In Region Above New Orleans.

New Orleans, May 17.—Unhampered by the earthen, man-made barriers the swollen Atchafalaya, fed by Mississippi flood waters, today added Melville to the long list of towns that have been swept aside or inundated in the mad rush for the sea.

Leaving terror-stricken inhabitants viewing the remnants of their town from levee-tops as they awaited rescue-boats, the waters turned southward and westward to join those from the Bayou des Glaives which already have spread some forty miles down the Valley to Palmetto, approximately 50 miles northwest of Baton Rouge and 130 miles northwest of New Orleans.

The east side dykes of the Atchafalaya still were holding the waters out of the eight parishes comprising the "Sugar Bowl" of Louisiana, and located between the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers.

No lives were believed lost at Melville in spite of the fact that the river's wrath was loosed upon the town in the early morning hours while many of the residents still were sleeping. Fleeing before the waters, they sought refuge on the levees and in upper floors of buildings until boats could reach them.

Late this afternoon water was charging through a 2,000 foot crevasse upon the town and spreading westward to join the lake from Bayou des Glaives. Still another crevasse occurred on the west bank of the Atchafalaya six miles above Melville this afternoon to further intensify the situation.

The New Orleans Weather Bureau said that the water was running one foot deep over the Texas and Pacific Railroad tracks at Palmetto; and at Morrow, on the western extremity of the Atchafalaya delta.

The crest of the flood still was more than a hundred miles away at Ferriday, in the Tensas Basin, and moving slowly down upon the Atchafalaya. Of such immense proportions was it that the weather bureau said its stages were three feet above those of the flood of 1882. It was estimated it would require from three to four weeks for it to reach Morgan City, at the edge of the Gulf of Mexico.

Every precaution was urged against "these unprecedented conditions in the Atchafalaya basin."

The weather bureau said that conditions now in sight indicated the flood in St. Martin Parish would be 17 to 20 feet deep in the low bottoms and would overrun railroad tracks in the neighborhood of Breaux Bridge.

The Mississippi River below Old River will not change materially within the next few days, the bulletin said, but precautions were urged continued against stages previously predicted.

Twelve square miles already had been inundated from the Melville crevasse. A high railroad embankment at the town was believed to have contributed largely to the safety of the inhabitants. Breaking the first rush of the waters, the embankment forced them to make a detour and allow residents time to gather their children and run to the levees.

## Highest Yet



Capt. Hawthorne C. Gray, U.S. A., went up and up in a free balloon at Scott Field, Ill., until at 4,000 feet he saw some extraordinary things. He was holding the balloon steady to learn to earth with a steady altitude record.