

CHARRED BODY OF SURRY MAN FOUND IN FIRE

George Atkins, 62, Burned to Death in Home

NEAR WHITE PLAINS

Officers Check Possibility of Suicide and Foul Play; Guns Found

FINAL RITES TODAY

A Surry county man, George Atkins, 62, was burned to death about midnight Tuesday when fire destroyed his home in the White Plains section.

Officers were investigating the possibility of suicide or foul play, it was said, after finding both a pistol and shotgun near the charred body.

Mr. Atkins was living in the seven-room brick house with his son, Ashby Atkins. The son left home earlier in the evening, telling officers that his father was sitting before a small grate fire smoking his pipe when he left. Returning about 11:30, Ashby found the house in flames. He attempted to get in, he said, but hot fire prevented his entering. He then drove two miles to the home of Joe Draughan for help.

When they returned to the house it had been completely burned. The body of George Atkins was found near the fire place, a pistol on one side of the body and a shotgun on the other. The flames had consumed the body, it was said, the only way investigators being able to recognize that it was a human body being because of the bone structure.

Coroner Robert E. Smith called an investigation and later said there was no reason to suspect any foul play. Neither could anything be found at the moment to indicate suicide. It was learned by the authorities that the dead man had been drinking heavily and that he was under the influence of liquor Tuesday night.

Fear that foul play might have been involved was strengthened when a neighbor reported they saw a black sedan, with a Virginia license tag, pull away from the house about the time Ashby Atkins returned with help.

Surviving Mr. Atkins are his wife, Mrs. Fannie Slaydon Atkins, who did not live with her husband but who lived in the neighborhood; two daughters, Mrs. Vance Marion and Mrs. Hadley Harrell of the White Plains section; five sons, Doc Atkins of the United States Army air corp at Akron, Ohio, Woltz Atkins of the CCC camp at Mortimer this state, Calvin Atkins of Statesville, Harley Atkins of Mt. Airy, Route 4, and Ashby Atkins of the home.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock from White Plains Baptist church. Interment will be in the church graveyard.

YADKIN PASTOR PASSES AWAY

Rev. R. P. Coram Dies Wednesday; Had Retired from Active Work

FUNERAL RITES TODAY

Rev. R. P. Coram, 80, a Baptist minister and well loved citizen of Yadkin county, died at his home at Booneville at 1 o'clock Wednesday morning. He was a life-long resident of the Booneville section and during his active work in the ministry served churches in Yadkin, Surry, Wilkes, Davie and Iredell counties. He retired from active work five years ago, having served many churches as pastor for more than 30 years at the time of his retirement.

Survivors include his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Amanda Clingman Reece, three children: Mrs. Enos Stinson, Mrs. Ransom Burgess and Mrs. Nannie Davis, all of Booneville, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held today at 2 p.m. from Charity Baptist church. The services will be in charge of Rev. E. W. Turner, of Mocksville; Rev. Will Crissman, of East Bend; Rev. R. E. Adams, of Mayodan, and Rev. E. G. Jordan, of Elkin. Interment will be in the church graveyard.

In 1843 Atlanta, Ga., was called Marthasville.

TWO FATALLY HURT, FOUR INJURED

A Jonesville boy and an Elkin girl received fatal injuries, and four companions were hurt, two seriously, when the car pictured above was wrecked on the Booneville-Crutchfield highway about 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Said to have been travelling at 80 miles an hour, the car struck a highway fence, catapulted across a 30-foot fill, and landed as pictured at the edge of the nearby woods. Those fatally hurt were Thomas Barnett, 17, of Jonesville, and Ruth Groce, 16, of Elkin. Those injured were Marie Collins, 18, of Elkin; Carolyn Barnett, 15, of Jonesville, said to have been the driver, and Hubert and Vern Ester, 21 and 18 respectively, of Roaring River.—(Tribune Photo.)



Two Are Killed, Four Hurt In Crash Near Crutchfield Sunday

LATE NEWS IN BRIEF

From the State and Nation

SPEEDING CAR HURTLES OVER HIGHWAY FILL

Elkin Girl, Jonesville Youth Death Victims

RUSHED TO HOSPITAL

Marie Collins, of Elkin, Is Said to Have Chance for Recovery

CAR IS TOTAL WRECK

LOCAL

A REVIEW of outstanding world-wide news of the day by C. J. Hyslop, director of the Thurmond Chatham Unity club, was a feature of the club meeting held Monday evening at the clubhouse here. Following the news review, Mr. Hyslop presented a questionnaire, the answer to the 20 questions appearing on the quiz, to be answered by number. Eighteen of the 20 questions were correctly answered by three of the young clubmen who tied for the prize offered. Special guests of the meeting were 20 young men of the group of Chatham employees who have moved this week from Winston-Salem to the new plant here.

E. G. LACKEY, 22, was found guilty of assault on a female in Yadkin superior court last Thursday night by a Yadkin county jury after they had deliberated two hours and 15 minutes, and was sentenced by Judge W. H. Bobbitt to six months on the road, suspended upon payment of the costs. Young Lackey was originally charged with criminal assault, a capital offense, but the charge was later amended to the lesser count.

COMMITTEE members from the various townships of Surry county met at Dobson Monday morning at the call of W. M. Johnson, secretary of the Surry county Democratic executive committee, for the purpose of discussing plans for the holding of the county convention on May 11, and the election of delegates to the state Democratic convention May 17.

NATIONAL

SHENANDOAH, Pa., March 6—New settlements added to the hazards of this anthracite city today as two new danger spots were revealed in sections not yet affected by the 24-block cave-in of Monday. Ever-widening fissures gave rise to fears that many of the damaged buildings might collapse. City authorities roped off the Gozinsky Building, which was condemned after an inspection revealed it was near collapse.

WASHINGTON, March 6—President's Roosevelt's expressed support gave new confidence today to senators seeking to broaden the Hatch act against political activity of government workers. Nevertheless, opponents of the amendments now being debated in the Senate predicted that they had a good chance to beat the extension and even narrow the law's present scope.

INTERNATIONAL

HELSINKI, March 6—Harassed behind battlefronts by the Red air armada, Finnish forces were reported still clinging to foredoomed Viipuri today, while fighting a fierce delaying action with their own planes and heavy guns. A half-hundred persons were killed and scores wounded at a small town in south central Finland in the latest and perhaps the deadliest Russian aerial thrust behind the lines.

BUCHAREST, March 6—The Soviet legation said today that Russian Premier-Foreign Commissar Viacheslav M. Molotov will visit Bucharest soon to sign a Soviet-Rumanian nonaggression pact. Preparations have been completed for Molotov's visit, the Russian legation said. The legation confirmed arrangements for the visit after it had been rumored in Russian circles that Molotov soon would come to the Rumanian capital.

FOLGER SEEKS ANOTHER TERM

Fifth District Congressman Files as Candidate for Re-election

IS SURRY COUNTY MAN

Washington, March 2—Congressman Alonzo D. Folger, of Mount Airy, Democratic national committeeman from North Carolina, was today among the North Carolina House members who filed his application and paid his fee as a candidate for re-election to Congress from the Fifth North Carolina district.

The announcement by Mr. Folger that he will ask re-election was received with great satisfaction by his large circle of friends in the House, especially members of the committee on banking and currency, of which he is a member.

Mr. Folger is a native of North Carolina and has been prominently identified with the affairs of the state, especially Surry county, since his young manhood. He was born in Dobson, Surry county, July 9, 1888, and was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1912 with an A.B. degree. He was for years one of the trustees of his alma mater. He served as a judge of the superior court in North Carolina in 1937, but resigned to render service in the national campaign. He was unanimously elected a member of the national committee of his party in 1936, and is one of the outstanding members of the Democratic National committee from the South.

A consistent Democrat, Mr. Folger has made an enviable record as a member of the committee on banking and currency. He succeeded Frank W. Hancock on this committee as soon as he came to Congress. Mr. Folger married Miss Gertrude Reece in 1919, and they have two sons, Alonzo Dillard, Jr., and Jack, aged 16 and 13, respectively. Folger was nominated for Congress in the primary of June two years ago by a majority of 6,000 over two opponents, Marshal C. Kurtes, of Winston-Salem, and George Fuik, of Leaksville.

MASONS HOLD MEETING HERE TUESDAY NIGHT

At a meeting of the Elkin Masonic Lodge here Tuesday night, work in the third degree was administered, it was learned Wednesday.

Worshipful Master W. M. Walters, from the Granites Lodge, Mount Airy, and several other Mount Airy members were present. Masons from the Pilot Mountain Lodge were also present, it was said.

To Run Again



Congressman A. D. (Lon) Folger, of Surry, who has served the Fifth District during the past two years, has announced that he will be a candidate to succeed himself in office.

COMMISSIONERS HOLD MEETING

Discuss Plans for Improvement of School Here But No Decision Made

GO THROUGH ROUTINE

A large amount of business of routine nature was transacted by the Surry county board of commissioners, which met Monday at Dobson.

Plans for the improvement of the elementary school building here, a portion of the upper story of which has been condemned as unsafe for children due to inadequate fire exits, were discussed but nothing definite was decided. Among the bills which have faced the county and reported settled in full, was the balance of the purchase price of the Mountain Park high school property, which was purchased sometime ago from the Haymore estate.

In settlement of the estate, the property was offered the county at a very reasonable price and is regarded a valuable acquisition to the county public school property.

S. S. ASSOCIATION TO MEET WITH WESTFIELD

The monthly Baptist Sunday school association of Surry county will convene with the Westfield Baptist church Sunday afternoon, March 10, at 2:15. All Baptist churches in the county are requested to have a representative present.

FIRE DESTROYS FARM OFFICES

County Agent's Building in Yadkin Goes up in Smoke Early Wednesday

LOSS ESTIMATED \$10,000

Fire destroyed the office building of Yadkin county's farm and home demonstration agents of Yadkinville Wednesday morning with a loss estimated at \$10,000. In addition to the money loss, many valuable farm records that cannot be replaced were burned.

The hot flame from the one-story brick building, located on the court house square threatened the Yadkin county court house and other buildings in the vicinity. Volunteer workers managed to prevent the flames from spreading but could do little toward fighting the blaze in the farm agent's office.

Federal Soil Conservation checks totaling \$10,000 were destroyed in the blaze. These checks came in recently and were being distributed. They can be duplicated.

There was no insurance on the building or contents, it was said. Insurance of \$2,000 was carried on the building until some time ago when county officials let it drop.

When the fire had burned itself out, only the back and side walls were left standing, the roof burning off and the front wall collapsing.

Chatham Plant Begins Full Operation Here

The new finishing plant of the Chatham Manufacturing Company, under construction here for the past six months and only recently completed at a cost of approximately half a million dollars, began full operation Monday morning as the huge task of moving machinery and other equipment from the Winston-Salem plant was completed.

Moving of equipment had been under way for about two months, and parts of the new plant have been in operation for some weeks. With full production here, approximately 500 of the former Winston-Salem employees are now working in the new plant. Many have moved their families here, others are commuting between Elkin and Winston-Salem.

Although the new office building is not quite completed, the entire office staff of the company is now here, it was said.

To Speak Here



Dr. Ralph McDonald, above, of the faculty of the University of North Carolina, will speak here Friday evening at 8 o'clock at the Elkin Methodist church as the first of a series of distinguished speakers to be brought here by the newly organized forum, which is sponsored by local civic clubs. Dr. McDonald's talk will be non-political and non-sectarian. Prior to his address, Dr. McDonald will speak to the Elkin Kiwanis club at their meeting at Hotel Elkin, which has been postponed one day for that reason. The public is invited to hear him when he speaks at the Methodist church.

Election Charge Against Thomasson Is Dismissed

Yadkinville, March 6—(Special)—The case against Stowe Thomasson, charged with violation of election laws, was nolle prossed with leave in superior court here Thursday afternoon.

Thomasson, who was registrar of election in Buck Shoals township in the 1938 elections, had been indicted, along with others, the specific charge being that he had entered names on the books without the voter being present.

The palm is one of the oldest measures of length. It was the width of the open hand at the base of the fingers—about three inches.

Two were killed and four injured, two seriously, in an automobile accident Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock on the Booneville-Crutchfield highway when the light sedan in which six were travelling left the highway, catapulted 30 feet across a fill and landed in the edge of nearby woods.

Those dead are Thomas Barnett, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pinkney Barnett, of Jonesville, and Ruth Groce, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Groce, of Elkin.

Badly injured were Marie Collins, 18, of Elkin, and Carolyn Barnett, 15, a sister of the dead Barnett youth. She was said to have been the driver of the car. Hubert and Vern Ester, both of Roaring River, were not seriously injured, and were dismissed from the local hospital late Wednesday afternoon.

Marie Collins, of Elkin, suffered a fractured skull and a broken arm. Although she is in a very critical condition, hospital attaches late Wednesday stated that she had a chance to recover. Carolyn Barnett is expected to recover. She was said to have suffered internal injuries.

Patrolman Lee Phillips, of Elkin, who investigated the wreck, stated that the accident occurred at the identical spot where Barney Childress was killed last November. It was estimated the car was travelling at 80 miles an hour when the accident occurred.

Striking a highway fence, the speeding machine snapped off an eight-inch post and a highway "stop" sign and hurtled across a 30-foot fill to land on its side.

(Continued on Last Page)

Father Of Local Business Man Passes Away

J. P. Mills, 88, well known citizen of Iredell county, father of Lathan Mills, of this city, died at Lowrance hospital, Mooresville, Thursday morning. Mr. Mills been ill since January 15, and had been in the hospital during his illness. Prior to his last illness he had been remarkably active for a man of his years.

He had been head of the J. P. Mills department store at Mooresville for many years and was prominently identified, with the civic and religious life of his community.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon from the First Presbyterian church of Mooresville, of which Mr. Mills was a member. Interment was in the church cemetery.

KIWANIS HEARS VOCAL PROGRAM

Music as rendered by Van Dillon, Jr., and Horace Hamilton, both local young men, was a feature of the Kiwanis club meeting held at Hotel Elkin last Thursday night.

Mr. Hamilton, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Franklin Folger, sang the Kashmiri Song, "Trees" and "Gay Caballero." Mr. Dillon sang "Asleep in the Deep," "On the Road to Mandalay," and "Just a-Wearyin' for You." T. R. Sample, manager of Hotel Elkin, was welcomed into the club as a new member. John G. Anderson, a member of the Salisbury club, was a visiting Kiwanian.