

WHITBY IS HELD FOR HIGH COURT

Girl Tells Her Side of Story—Boy Remains Silent

Fourteen-year-old Gladys Green, of Roanoke Rapids, took the witness stand in police court last Friday, and related to Magistrate R. L. Martin the story of the sudden disappearance of herself and Bertie Mae Harris, 17, also of this city, on Saturday night, July 19. The two young girls were arrested in Concord, N. C., last Thursday and returned to their homes here the same day by Chief of Police G. F. Gray and the Green girl's father, bringing to a close a four day's search, which extended to different sections of North Carolina and neighboring states.

The scene of the Green girl's story, which was rather sensational, was laid in the mayor's court, at the trial of Russell Whitby, 26, local mill employe, charged with taking the two girls away. The charge against Whitby of "abducting and kidnapping" the girls was changed to "having intercourse with a girl between 12 and 16 years of age."

Whitby did not take the stand in his own behalf. He was placed in the Halifax County Jail, in default of a \$300 bond and is scheduled to appear at the August term of Superior court, when he will tell his defense story about the ride he and another young man, whom he told a local officer was Tom Mitchell, of Emporia, Va., took with the two girls. Whitby has employed Attorneys Allen C. Zollicoffer and Julian A. Allsbrook as counsel. Attorney George C. Green, of Weldon, has been retained by the Green girl's father. He handled the prosecution at Friday's hearing. The Harris girl did not testify. Mitchell has not been apprehended by local authorities.

Before the presiding officer, the policemen, her father and a number of courtroom spectators the little fourteen-year-old brunette unwound the story of her disappearance, which caused much worry for her parents, and those of her companion, and added extra work to local police and those of other towns and cities in the state.

On the night of the girls' disappearance, the Green girl's story goes, she and the Harris girl were walking up Roanoke Avenue. Between the nurses' home and the Roanoke Rapids hospital they were at their own request, picked up in an automobile by Whitby and another young man, whose name she did not mention, but whom Whitby declares is Mitchell. How they were seated in the automobile at the outset of the journey she did not describe.

Arriving at South Rosemary, the girl testified, the four stopped at a filling station where one of the boys purchased a pint of whisky. The whisky was concealed in the machine until they had traveled down the road to a spot where they thought was safe enough to uncork the ardent spirits. The bottle was passed around and the four, it was stated, drank of the contents.

The girl stated that after she had drunk the liquor she had a peculiar feeling and intimated that she had been doped.

In the course of the ride the girls asked the boys to drive them to Charlotte. Their request was granted and the machine was headed in the direction of that city.

On their way to Charlotte, she stated the two men had intercourse with them. On their return home here the girls were examined by local physicians, one of whom testified at the trial.

Upon their arrival in Charlotte, she continued, the boys let them out on the street and then drove away. Whitby insists that he was introduced to the two girls as the Misses Brown, and that they took him to a house in Charlotte where he was introduced to a man and woman whom the girls pretended were their parents. He said he ate breakfast at the home of the people and returned to Roanoke Rapids Sunday. The Green girl denies any knowledge of taking him to this house. Whitby, it is said, claims he can find the same house in Charlotte.

Continuing her story, the girl said she and the Harris girl met two other fellows in Charlotte who drove (Continued on back page)

LOCAL BAND PLAYING AT MINNESOTT

Playing for Concerts and Dances all This Week at Beach Resort

Word has been received by The Herald from the Rosemary Concert Band which is playing every day this week at Minnesott Beach. Practically the entire band is there and reports are they are having a most successful stay and a pleasant vacation.

While the Twin Cities are sweltering in the intense heat to which they have been subjected for several days the members of the local band are enjoying the cool breezes of the beach down at Minnesott. The band under the direction of R. L. Martin is being entertained at the beach all this week where they are giving daily concerts and furnishing music for the dances. The performances of the band by large and appreciative audiences from the crowds which throng the beach. The boys made a similar trip to the beach last season where they acquired a host of friends.

The traditional hospitality of the people of this section has added much to the pleasures of the numerous sports afforded by the beach.

Minnesott Beach is situated at Wilkerson's Point on the Neuse River about two miles from Arapahoe. This particular spot is said to be the first place at which Sir Walter landed as he came up the river.

Although Minnesott is just in its third season it is already one of the most popular resorts in this section.

JR. LEGION TEAM PLAYS GASTONIA

First Game There This Afternoon for State Championship

The local boys team sponsored by the American Legion left here by bus yesterday morning for Gastonia where they play a three game series for the State championship.

The first game is being played this afternoon. Fourteen boys and coach Bill Allsbrook made the trip.

The Legion Post at Gastonia invited the local team to play the whole series there as the expenses of playing here or on neutral ground would be too much and gate receipts would be small.

Gastonia has a post of several hundred members, one of the largest in the State, and there has been much enthusiasm over their boys team, especially when they defeated Durham last week to win the Western championship. They have guaranteed the traveling and hotel expenses of the local team and half the net gate receipts.

Coach Allsbrook had no line on the opposing team but the boys were feeling very confident when they left. The second game will be played Friday and if a third game is necessary it will be played off Saturday, the boys returning here Sunday. Those who saw the last two games with Goldsboro feel the boys have a good chance to win the championship if they continue to play the same brand of ball.

The team has its new uniforms, donated by the citizens of this community, and will make a snappy looking outfit when they trot on the field this afternoon.

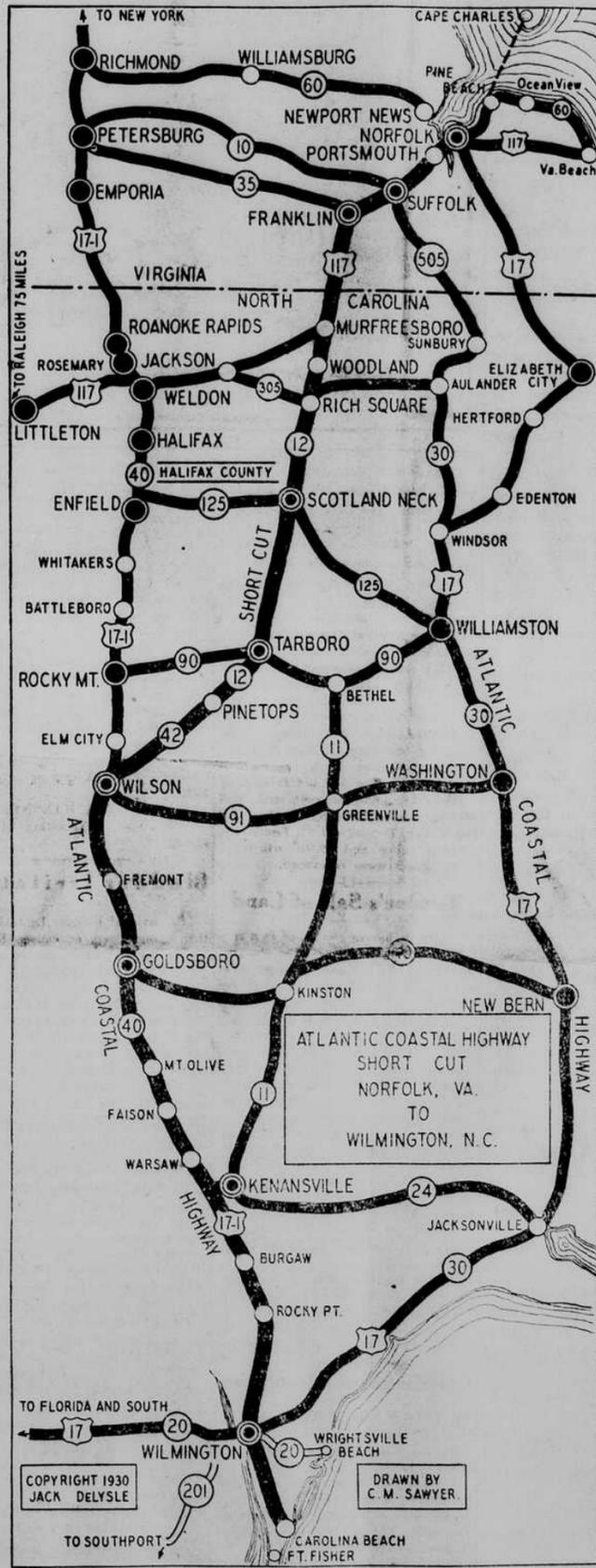
Local Contractor Lands Big Job In Washington, D. C.

The brick, tile and stone contract on a new High School building in Washington, D. C., has been landed by Jim Thompson, local contractor.

The general contractors who received the contract are W. P. Rose and Co., of Goldsboro. The building will be larger than the High School building here.

Mr. Thompson will leave next week to begin the work and he states his willingness to employ all local bricklayers at a good wage. He says this part of the work will last about five months.

Atlantic Coastal Highway in North Carolina



The new maps of the Atlantic Coastal Highway are ready to go to press and one of the several maps which will show on the big folder is printed in this issue.

This particular map shows the Highway as a short route from Norfolk to Wilmington. The main line of the Atlantic Coastal however, is that road shown from Richmond to Wilmington.

The completion of a new ferry from Cape Charles to Norfolk will bring many tourists from the North along the shore line. 130 miles is saved by taking this new route. The Coastal Highway Association plans to divert much West Bound traffic com-

Father of Dr. Job Taylor Dies In Ohio

Dr. Job Taylor was called to Lima, Ohio, last Thursday on account of the death of his father, Mr. George Taylor. Mr. Taylor was about eighty seven years old and came to this country from England about forty five years ago. He is survived by two daughters and three sons, Misses

ing South to Norfolk via route 117 to Federal Route 17-1.

The new maps do not take cognizance of the recent arbitrary action of the N. C. State Highway Department in taking markings of Route 40 and 17-1 from this community.

There is descriptive matter of the Twin Cities on the back of the folder with pictures of all the mills and data concerning the industrial features of the community.

There is some debate as to the value of these maps and membership in the Atlantic Coastal Highway Association at this time to the two towns. There are those who think the Associa-

Anne and Elizabeth Taylor of Lima, Ohio, Dr. George Taylor of Pittsburgh, Penn., Mr. Richard Taylor of Boston, Mass., and Dr. Job Taylor of this place. The sympathy of Dr. Taylor's many friends goes to him and his family.

The condition of Miss Tommie Hodges, of Northampton county, who has been a patient in the Roanoke Rapids Hospital since July 10, is much improved, attaches at the hospital say.

tion can do us no good in our fight to regain 17-1, while others feel that being in the Association and on the maps will be a strong talking point and argument in the fight to get the roads back to their original status.

The entire Coastal Highway extends from Maine to Florida, the map shown here being a local map of the State of North Carolina. The map of the entire route shows on one side of the folder. These maps are placed in all hotels, office of Chambers of Commerce, and automobile clubs, filling stations, tourists camps and other places where travelers gather.

Purdy Is Manager

R. B. Purdy, who has been connected with the local branch of the Eastern Carolina Service Corporation for several years, has been elevated to manager of the local concern. He succeeds J. R. Worrell who has been transferred to Greenville this week.

Mrs. J. H. Story of Roanoke Junction, who is a patient at the Roanoke Rapids Hospital, is improving.

MOVE MAN FOR SAFE KEEPING

Owens Taken to Raleigh Prison after Preliminary Hearing

E. B. Owens, 40-year-old white man, is confined to the State penitentiary at Raleigh, where he was removed for safe keeping last Saturday following a preliminary hearing on a capital charge before a Magistrate at Garysburg.

Owens will remain at the State Prison until next Monday, when he will be returned to Jackson for his appearance at the August term of Northampton Superior Court. He was removed to Raleigh by Sheriff Joyner.

Owens was arrested at the Halifax Paper Corporation mill here last week by Deputy Sheriff Ed Keeter on a warrant issued by the State in which he is charged with a capital offense against a nine year old girl.

The girl was brought to Roanoke Rapids, where she was examined by a local physician. She named Owens as her assailant. Owens is a widower and the father of several children.

LIVE STOCK SPECIAL ON AUGUST 19

Farmers and Public Invited to Visit Special Train

The Live Stock Development Special Train, operated by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in cooperation with the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, will visit Weldon, N. C., on August 19th from 2 p. m. to 6 p. m. Farmers and others interested in any phase of live stock raising will be given an opportunity to see types of dairy cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry recommended for this section, and the equipment necessary for their care, and to secure information from the specialists who accompany the train about breeding, feeding and marketing problems.

The live stock development special is being operated by the Atlantic Coast Line and the cooperating agencies in an effort to bring about the establishment of more live stock on the farms of Eastern North Carolina. All agricultural authorities are agreed that not only are more live stock badly needed to furnish additional cash farm income and maintain soil fertility, but that conditions in this section are peculiarly favorable for live stock production. When bred and fed as recommended by the State College Specialists live stock has been found decidedly profitable in Eastern North Carolina.

Everything on the live stock development special is free, and a visit to the train involves no obligations. Women are especially invited.

Mrs. Bolton Dies

After a prolonged illness, Mrs. J. T. Bolton died Thursday night at her home in South Rosemary. Funeral services were held Saturday and interment was made in Cedarwood cemetery. Mrs. Bolton leaves six children, Mrs. E. V. Hedgepeth, Mrs. R. L. Edwards, Miss Maggie Bolton, Rufus Bolton, and Quinton Bolton.

Father Dies Suddenly

Word has been received here of the sudden death of the father of Jack Williams, of Roanoke Rapids, which occurred at his home in Kimberly, Wisconsin, Wednesday. Mr. Williams was 95 years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Williams recently returned to their home here from a visit with the former's father. Funeral services for the deceased will take place Saturday.

The Roanoke Mills Company has installed a new drinking fountain on the City Park near the tennis courts. The fountain is a blessing to the youngsters who use the park for playgrounds, and is being well used by tennis players and also those who use the park in cutting through from Jackson Street.

HUNDREDS LOOK FOR OIL HERE

Small Seepage in Creek Watched for Years by Local Man

For years, Postmaster J. L. Vest has been watching a certain pool in Chocoyotte Creek. A short time ago, he told Rev. R. L. Topping, who owns the land on one side of the pool that his observations over a period of years convinced him there was oil on the property.

The news spread like wildfire and during the past few days, especially Sunday, hundreds of people have stopped at the bridge on Route 48 which crosses the creek and looked for some sign of the oil.

There is not much to see at a casual glance. But one who stays there for a short time will see bubbles rising intermittently and then a small emudge of oily substance will rise to the surface to float slowly downstream. This has been going on for several years, says Mr. Vest, who one day caught a bit of the oil as it came to the surface and ignited it. It burned freely.

Some seem to think the whole thing is merely an oil tank creeping into the creek somewhere upstream, but Mr. Vest observed the oil in the pool years before there was any oil tanks upstream.

At times, the top of the water will be carrying a dozen small patches of oil, all rising from the bottom of the pool. There are no indications of any similar disturbance above the pool, which is located just upstream from the highway bridge. While no geologist has yet visited the spot, those from here who have seen it are certain there is an oil and gas seepage there. How large it is, of course, one knows.

State geologists say there are no oil deposits in Eastern North Carolina, what they probably mean is that there are no deposits large enough for commercial use, because there is but little doubt that there is at least a small deposit in the Chocoyotte Creek pool, enough to flow at intervals for the last ten or twelve years that Mr. Vest has been observing it, and perhaps for years before that time.

Which all recalls to the mind of the writer, an oil boom in a section of Kentucky a few years ago. Drilling for a well, a driller accidentally struck oil and the whole country went mad. Rigs were brought in from every section of the country, drilling started in a hundred spots, land sold for fabulous sums, dry holes were forgotten when a well was brought in, men closed their places of business and went out buying and selling leases, shares, promoters and the riff raff of the Texas and Oklahoma fields poured in, thousands of dollars were made, lost and spent every day. That was five years ago. Today there may be a dozen small wells pumping regularly, all owned by one or two companies. Oil lands which might have sold for one thousand dollars an acre then can be bought for ten dollars now.

On the other hand, oil was the miracle worker in Texas and the Southwest, as well as in portions of Pennsylvania. We recall in Oklahoma where whole tribes of Indians were made fabulously rich overnight by the discovery of oil on or near their native prairie lands.

Geologists tell us that oil runs in pockets; that the deeper into the earth wells are drilled the greater the chances for finding the larger pockets. They claim none of these large deposits or pockets are in this section of the country.

Too Much Ice Water Makes Hospital Victim

Persons who drink too much ice water during this hot spell might profit from the experience of Joe Williams, a patient in the Roanoke Rapids hospital.

Last Wednesday Mr. Williams attended a barbecue picnic across the river. He helped prepare the barbecue for serving and during the course of this work drank plenty of ice water to help him keep cool. Before the picnic was over, Mr. Williams began suffering with severe pains. A physician was called and he was removed to the hospital. His condition is not considered serious.

Miss Edna McCommons, of Rosemary, a former nurse at the Roanoke Rapids hospital, is a patient there.