

Carolina's Only TABloid NEWSpaper

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

VOLUME NINETEEN

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 1933

NUMBER TWENTY-SIX

WHO KILLED MARVEL CULLOM ?

Why Was The Body Moved?

UP AND DOWN The Avenue WITH THE EDITOR

The Cullom mystery murder takes most of the space in this issue, just as it has been the main topic of conversation during the week. A thousand people have visited the scene of the murder and hundreds have congregated in front of Williams Funeral Home where the investigation is going on.

Another clue went sky high when the torn letters found near the murder plot were found to be some school child's home work or examination paper.

The Coroner's Jury consists of Messrs G. M. Gurley, J. L. Cobb, H. S. Loy, C. C. Shell, C. H. Byrd and R. I. Starke. They have been on the job since Sunday morning, working late at night and until early morning hours.

They have missed nobody who said they knew anything about the murder case. More than fifty have been heard. In most cases what they knew, they had heard somebody else say and so on. But each lead was followed down until it vanished, on the theory that out of them all might come something of value.

Funeral arrangements had been made for Tuesday afternoon. They have been postponed indefinitely and the body placed in the receiving vault this morning.

Another theory went blooey when word came of a fight, screams and breaking of furniture in a house near the Cullom home and near the woods Friday night. The Coroners jury spent hours investigating only to find it was a family row and had nothing to do with the Cullom case.

T. N. Harrison, senior proprietor of the new Harrison's Drug Store "Uptown" says that he feels perfectly at home in Roanoke Rapids, rather than like a new business man.

Mr. Harrison, with his brother L. S., until recently operated a drug store at Littleton, and they have also been in business in Weldon, and are well-known all over the county. Their brother, V. F. Harrison is manager of the Roanoke Motor Co., local Ford dealers.

The new store is located in the

(Continued on back page)

\$100 REWARD

EXONERATED!



John D. Cannon, alias George Washington Cannon, who presented an iron-clad alibi in the Cullom slaying. He is under a \$10,000 bond for the grand jury in the Virginia Cannon quadruple massacre in March. Officers endeavored to link the two cases as Marvel Cullom was a State's witness in the Cannon case.

Mrs. Frank C. Williams and her two children parked their car near the Ambassador Hotel in Washington while they went in the hotel to use a telephone last week. They had just driven up from Roanoke Rapids. Gone only a few minutes, when they returned they found that thieves had unlocked the car door and stolen a large suit case filled with clothing.

The County of Halifax hereby offers a reward of \$100.00 for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the murderer, or murderers of Miss Marvel Cullom.

"I take this method of expressing my appreciation to the community for the interest and cooperation shown in the investigation of the murder of Miss Marvel Cullom. Also to the officers who have so perfectly cooperated with each other and myself. I have asked the County to offer a reward for the arrest of the guilty party and beg of you to continue the fine spirit shown and report any information you may get to either myself or any officer."
W. C. WILLIAMS,
Coroner of Halifax County.

N. R. A. COMPLIANCE BOARD

The permanent NRA Compliance Board for Roanoke Rapids has been appointed as follows:

- Mayor Kelly Jenkins, Chairman.
 - T. W. Mullen, representing industry.
 - G. D. Wheeler, representing employees.
 - H. S. Loy, representing merchants.
 - George Pappendick, representing clerks.
 - Mrs. T. M. Jenkins, representing consumers.
 - A. L. Clark, attorney.
- The first official meeting of the Compliance Board is being held tonight at Mayor Jenkins' office.

GIVEN LIFE SENTENCE TODAY



Above are the "Machine-Gun" Kellys, captured in Memphis and facing trial in Oklahoma. They are the last two members of the kidnaping gang, seven of whom were convicted for the kidnaping of Charles Urschel, oil baron.

BRUTAL SLAYING OF LOCAL GIRL STILL UNSOLVED

Fifty Witnesses Heard By Coroner's Jury; Several Clues Found; More Than One Possible Motive; Contradictory Testimony

Out of the maze of conflicting testimony surrounding the brutal slaying of Marvel Cullom, 23-year-old Roanoke Rapids girl, on Friday night, two questions face investigating officials today.

Who Killed Marvel Cullom?

Why was the body moved from its original position?

Officers feel that in answering the last question, the first will be solved and they are working hard on that angle.

The body of the dead girl was found 9:30 Sunday morning in a piece of woods back of the Rapids Street between 10th and 11th Streets. Rapids Street is the last city street and the murder scene was just out of the city limits.

Where the body was found are several hog pens and a network of paths made by owners of the hogs. This woods is used continually during the day.

The body was lying about 15 feet from a wagon road and in plain view from the road and from several of the paths. Hanging high on a bush near the body was the coat, a long blue coat, belonging to the Cullom girl. It was six feet or more from the ground and could be seen for a hundred yards or more.

While this was the position of the body and coat Sunday morning, none of this was observed Saturday and it is well established from the condition of the body that the girl was killed Friday night. Where was the body all day Saturday?

It was some fifty feet from where it was found Sunday, hidden in the thick undergrowth, briars and bushes.

This fact is established by the amount of blood found at this point, while there was no blood where the body was found. A trail showed where the body had been dragged.

The murderer or murderers had killed the girl at the first point Friday night or early Saturday morning. The body went undiscovered all day Saturday.

Saturday night or early Sunday morning, the killer or killers returned to the scene of the gruesome slaughter, and dragged the body into plain view. Not satisfied, they hung the coat up on a high bush where it would attract attention.

Why? The answer to that question will go a long ways toward solving the mystery of the murder.

MURDER THEORIES

The death of Marvel Cullom has brought forth several theories. Most of them had been discarded by the Coroner's office today, after thoro investigation of each. Facts concerning each theory are to be found in various stoies in this issue.

1. That she was killed because of her connection with and knowledge of the Cannon murders.
2. That she was assaulted and killed.
3. That she was killed because of the eternal triangle.
4. Other theories which are withheld because of investigations now under way or contemplated.