



THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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VOLUME TWENTY-TWO

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.

THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1936

NUMBER 24

2 MEN STILL MISSING

WOMAN KILLS SELF

OFFICER IS CLEARED BY JURY

UP AND DOWN WITH THE
The Avenue Editor

• • The Herald of next week will be printed on Tuesday instead of Thursday in a special Christmas Shoppers Guide. This will give plenty of time for complete distribution before Christmas Eve and all advertisers are urged to have copy for the Shoppers Guide and Last-Minute Suggestions ready for us the end of this week. All city and county correspondents are notified to have their news in this Saturday and not later than Monday evening, leaving Tuesday for last-minute important news only. The Herald plant will close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week.

• • Does Christmas mean anything to you? That is, anything besides a vacation, a day of no work, a day of noise, a day of give-and-take, a day for the kids. If you are getting languid about the occasion or losing your old-time interest, try taking a Christmas Opportunity from the Associated Charities list. This is just a tip to you. Sometimes things give you a shock and wake you up. You can't tell what you will draw from the bag, but be sure it will be interesting. We told Rev. J. N. Bynum we would take a family and told him about what we wanted. "Here is a case for you; No. 59", he said. All right, what is it, we asked. A grandmother, came the reply. A grandmother, we thought, perhaps one who has also raised a grandson and who has lived a life of anxiety because of the task. Yes, we will take that one. Gladly. "But that is not all," came the words over the phone (his number is R 579-1), "there is a little granddaughter also". How old, we asked, almost knowing. Six. (Well, there is another one almost six.) Yes, Mr. Bynum, we will take them. A grandmother and a little six year old granddaughter*** what's that? Oh, No. Yes, the little one is a cripple. Thank you, Mr. Bynum, a thousand times, thank you, for such a Christmas opportunity.

• • The annual Community Christmas singing of Christmas carols will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Christmas Eve. This sing, sponsored by the Kiwanis each year, will be held around the Kiwanis Tree in front of the Roanoke Rapids Hospital. All churches are asked to attend to help with the singing. A brief service will be conducted by pastors of local churches. Every person in the community is invited for this public half-hour program.

MOTHER DIES OF WOUNDS

Lonely, ~~reared~~ *reared* after her children grew up, married and left home, and with bad health to dog her future, Mrs. N. R. Jenkins, 54, of Littleton, shot herself at her home yesterday.

She was brought to the Roanoke Rapids Hospital last night at 8 o'clock and was pronounced dead a few minutes after reaching here.

With her was her husband, section foreman of the Seaboard Air Line, stationed at Littleton. Members of the family say she had been suffering bad health in the past year.

She shot herself with a pistol one time, the wounds in the abdomen producing internal hemorrhage.

HERO FOILS KIDNAPERS ON AVENUE

A brave hero saved the day here Monday afternoon when a gang of kidnapers invaded the city intent on doing away with the sweetheart of the hero. Aided by city police, the plans of the gang were foiled after they had attempted to kidnap at least three lovely young girls here.

Roanoke Avenue was a scene of wild action for a few minutes with police, gangsters and shrieking heroines. When the smoke cleared away it was discovered this was part of the Movie Queen play to be shown here December 22 and 23 at the High School. Movies were being taken of the action to be shown as part of the program sponsored by the Athletic and Music organizations of the High School.

(Complete Details Page 26)

ROBBERY

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Tough Negro Wounded Three Times Dies Tuesday; Officer Is Exonerated

The coroner's jury exonerated Special Officer Sam Jones of any blame in the death of James Robinson, Negro, shot three times by the officer when he resisted arrest near here three weeks ago. The verdict was returned at the Municipal Building last night after an inquest of the facts. Robinson died in the Roanoke Rapids Hospital Tuesday.

Testimony was presented to show the officer was not to blame for the shooting which followed his attempt to arrest Robinson after the latter had an argument with three white men in front of the Negro's house; an argument which had culminated in the Negro breaking a gun over the head of Nat Barlow, one of the white men and severely beating him.

When the white men returned with Officer Jones, testimony showed that the Negro came from his house with a shotgun and pursued the officer, who fired one time, hitting Robinson in the stomach. The wounded Negro followed the officer around the house and was shot a second time, in the breast; still he followed around another corner of the house, gun in position, and the officer fired a third time, hitting the wounded man in the side. Then the officer stumbled, fell, and the Negro, the wounded three times, jumped on him and tried to choke him and take his pistol from him. He was beaten off with a black-jack by Macon Lynch, who had this as the only other weapon. Then, Robinson submitted and was taken to the hospital. This was on Saturday, Nov. 21st. He died on Tuesday, Dec. 15th.

GIRL TOOK POISON IS IMPROVING

Miss Glenn Long, 22 year old waitress at Jones' Place on the highway between Weldon and Garysburg, is in the Roanoke Rapids Hospital recovering from a self-administered dose of bicloride.

She took the poison at the place where she works on Saturday night and was rushed to the local hospital where immediate attention cleared her system of most of the poison. Her condition is not considered serious.

She has given no reason for her action.

TWO GONE 16 DAYS UNFOUND

Complete silence follows the disappearance of Ralph Merritt and Peter Smith, each about 21, who have not been seen since Tuesday, Dec. 8th, sixteen days ago.

Despite daily rumors of the discovery of their bodies or of the boys alive, not a trace of them had been found up until tonight. The island, near where they were last seen, was searched the first of this week by J. C. Stephenson and Cebron Jordan, Sheriff and deputy Sheriff of Northampton County. An investigation has been made by Police Chief Dobbins who talked to the last one to see them, Robert Smith, Peter's younger brother.

Robert told the Chief he stayed on the bank with a fire and the other two left, wading in the river which was low at that time, and said they would return later with food. Later on he says he heard several shots fired, five or six, then silence. His brother and Merritt did not return. He waited for them until dark and then came home. So far as is known, nobody has seen or heard of them since.

(SEE PAGE 27)

Officials Here for Directors Meet'g

Here for the director's meeting of the textile unit of Simmons Company this week were Grant Simmons, President of Simmons Co., Alfred Terrell, executive Vice President, and Mr. Wrightson, Sales Manager. They stayed at the Textile Club while here.

Messrs. Simmons and Terrell, with F. C. Williams and H. D. Camp, are spending this week-end hunting quail in South Carolina.