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NEGRO ATTEMPTS TO KILL WIFE; THEN SHOOT HIMSELF

Four Negroes Suffocate In Scotland Neck Cells

Scotland Neck, April 18— Four Negroes, jailed Saturday night for intoxication, died sometime during the early hours of Sunday morning in the Scotland Neck municipal jail as a result of being suffocated by smoke.

The bodies were discovered about 6 Sunday morning when Major Benjamin F. Bracy out for an early morning stroll, dropped by his office in the municipal building and detected the smell of smoke. Investigating, he discovered the four bodies in the cells.

Coroner Rowe of Weldon was immediately called, but being ill sent Deputy Coroner Mountcastle, who impaneled a jury at the scene to investigate. It was determined that the men suffocated from smoke from a burning mattress in an upper cell tier, apparently ignited by one of the inmates accidentally.

The jail, only last week inspected by the grand jury and declared to be the best in Halifax County, is located in the new municipal building and is completely fire-proof except for bedding. Night Officer Coggin jailed the men on public drunkenness. According to routine, he checked by the jail at midnight and found everything all right. He asserted he searched the men and removed all weapons and inflammables but apparently one of them had a match which he subsequently lighted during the night, thus setting the mattress on fire. The coroner's jury will return its verdict at a later date after Coroner Rowe recovers from his illness. In the meantime, statements were obtained from the night officer and others.

The men were Roosevelt Wilson, about 40; Henry Hart, 30; James Dollberry, 26; and R. Jesse Williams, 22. The first three were married, and the last named single and a veteran of World War II. All lived in the rural area near here.

FOR JUDGE Of The Recorders Court For Halifax County

To the Voters of Halifax County:
I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of Judge of the Halifax County Recorders Court, subject to the Democratic Primary, May 25, 1946. Your vote and support will be greatly appreciated.
W. O. (Bill) THOMPSON

FOR CORONER

To the Voters of Halifax County:
I hereby announce my candidacy for re-election to the office of coroner subject to the Democratic primary May 25. Your vote and support will be appreciated.
F. N. ROWE.

N. C. Symphony Will Play Here Tuesday, May 7

The North Carolina Symphony will play here on Tuesday, May 7, it was announced today.

A matinee for children will be given at 2 o'clock in the afternoon with no admission charge. At 8 o'clock the main performance will be given. Both concerts will be in the Roanoke Rapids High School auditorium.

State Licenses For Beer-Wine Due On May 1st

State beer and wine licenses will be due May 1, according to George C. Green, Jr., State Revenue Department collector, who was in Roanoke Rapids this week. Mr. Green urges that every application be properly signed when license is applied for. This is very important and will save considerable time, Mr. Green pointed out.

Two Candidates For City Board

Only two candidates filed for the office of City Commissioner. Howard Pruden from the South Ward to succeed Alfred Martin, who did not seek re-election, and W. P. Taylor from the North Ward, a present member of the board. Filing date closed last Tuesday night.

Graham Butler Is In San Francisco

Seaman First Class Graham O. Butler, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Butler, 655-B Charlotte street, has arrived in San Francisco, according to a message received by the family. He expects to be discharged from the service in June. Butler went into the Navy May 10, 1943, and spent 20 months overseas.

Banks Will Close All Day Monday

All banks in the city will be closed all day next Monday in observance of the Easter holiday, it was announced today.

Martin Calls Meetings In Co. Precincts

Democratic precinct meetings have been called for next Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Dr. John W. Martin, chairman of the Halifax County Democratic Executive Committee. Purpose of these meetings will be to elect committees to serve for the coming year and immediately following the appointment of these committees a chairman and vice-chairman from each precinct will be elected to head the precinct organizations. The vice-chairman, according to party plan, will be a woman. The chairman from each precinct will be a member of the county executive committee.

Another important business to be attended to at each precinct meeting will be the naming of delegates to the county Democratic convention which will be held at Halifax County court house on Saturday, April 27. Hour for this meeting will be announced later.

Challenge Accepted

The Seaboard passenger train pulled into Roanoke Rapids last Wednesday morning at 10:08, right on time, drawn by two powerful locomotives.

From a Pullman car stepped a "young" man. He glanced from each end of the walk to the other. Finally he saw me, and, walking agile and sprightly, he came toward me with a grin.

We shook hands and slapped each other on the back.

"Well, what the heck are you doing coming to Roanoke Rapids?" I asked.

"Dang it, I came up here to beat you fishing," he replied.

"Now, you know darn well you can't do that," I told him.

And with a twinkle in his eye he looked at me and said:

"Dog-gone your time, since you were a little shaver you've been following me fishing trying your best to beat me, and when you were in Atlanta last Christmas you told me if I came up here you'd take me rock fishing and show me how it was done. Well, you got to do it, now. I'm here. You haven't ever beat me fishing and never will."

And you know, somehow or other I feel like he means what he said. But we're gonna take that young fellow fishing, and I hope a six-pound rock grabs his hook just to see what he'll do.

(Continued on page 8—Sect. A)

John Clark, Believed Insane, Released From Hospital; Will Be Taken To Goldsboro

C. A. P. Plans To Buy Plane

At its weekly Tuesday night meeting this week, the local unit of the Civil Air Patrol discussed plans to buy a plane for the purpose of training and teaching the enlisted cadets to fly. If, and when the plane is bought, lessons will be given at the local airport which is located about three miles out on the Littleton highway. Lt. A. C. Culbreth, commanding officer of this unit, urges all pilots, plane owners, and any other interested persons to join the local unit, as it promises to be one of the most outstanding units of the North Carolina wing.

Outland, Tippens Go Back in Army

George S. Outland and Norman Tippens have re-enlisted in the regular Army. Tippens intends to study radar. Outland, a skilled radar technician, plans to continue in this work. Under new War Department regulations both men retained their rating when they were discharged. Lieut. J. M. Pate, commanding the Roanoke Rapids substation in the Army, announces the Army has openings in practically every field of Army work.

FOR JUDGE Recorder's Court Halifax County

To the Democratic Voters of Halifax County:

I hereby announce my candidacy for the nomination of Judge of the Recorder's Court of Halifax County, subject to the Democratic primary to be held on Saturday, May 25, 1946. Your support and vote will be deeply appreciated.
CHAS. R. DANIEL.

Easter Sunrise Service At High School Athletic Field

An Easter sunrise service will be held next Sunday morning at 5:30 on the athletic field of the Roanoke Rapids High School, it was announced today.

The choirs of the various churches in the city will provide the singing for the occasion, accompanied by the High School orchestra. Rev. Willis Stevens, pas-

John Clark, negro, about 35 years of age, suddenly went berserk last Tuesday morning about 11:30 o'clock and, arming himself with a single-barrelled shotgun and a high-powered rifle, went on a shooting spree.

The negro attempted to kill his wife, shooting at close range with the shotgun which evidently was loaded with a heavily-charged shell. He missed, but the blast tore a large hole in the woman's coat. Believing that he had killed her, the negro then took the rifle, and, according to the opinion of officers, rested the butt on the ground, leaned over and placed the muzzle of the rifle on the left side of his body near the heart and pulled the trigger. The bullet struck him just above the heart and came out his back between the shoulders. Clark then left the place and was later found about one-half mile away by Chief of Police H. E. Dobbins and Police Officer John W. High after they were called to the scene.

The officers did not know the negro had shot himself until they discovered blood soaking through his clothing. He was brought to Roanoke Rapids Hospital for treatment and was discharged from medical care here today. Officers will take him to Goldsboro where he will be placed in a state institution for negroes.

The shooting took place on the Edwin Allen farm in South Rosemary on the Littleton highway and created much excitement among many of the people in the neighborhood, many of them fearing that Clark would vent his insane wrath on other individuals.

FOR CORONER Halifax County

To the Voters of Halifax County:
I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of Coroner of Halifax County subject to the Democratic primary of May 25. Your vote and support will be appreciated.

RUFUS BRITTON.