

Oxford School Teacher Beaten By Midnight Intruder

Man Escapes In Auto As Aid Arrives

By ALEXANDER BARNES
OXFORD—The screams from a woman in trouble brought the entire eastern citizenry of this little town out, in full force, here Sunday morning and the discovery that Mrs. Willa Hamme Gregory, local school teacher, had been beaten unmercifully, by a man who entered her home about 12 p.m. through the window of a room located on the front, and assaulted her when she inquired what he was doing there.

Mrs. Gregory related to the writer from her bed, on Tuesday morning, that she was asleep and she suddenly awoke and discovered a man standing near her bed. She, at first, thought that she might have been dreaming and closed her eyes to be sure. When she opened her eyes, the second time, she was sure it was a man. She asked him who he was, what he wanted and what he was doing there. She said that the man did not answer, but immediately hit her over her right eye. Mrs. Gregory is not a small woman and she says that she began to fight with the intruder after he hit her. She was able to catch his coat and rain blows back at him.

Holds On To Coat
 As he beat her and was pulling away she held on to his coat. By this process she was able to pull herself out of the bed. He then hit her another telling blow that sent her to her knees, but she continued to hold to his coat.

It was then that he dragged her from her bedroom, through a small hall, to another bedroom and was able to break her hold on him and proceeded to make his flight through an open window, later found to be the one that he used to enter the house.

Mrs. Gregory further related that she saw him leap through the window and run to a car which was parked about 250 feet from her house on a side street. According to her the car would not start at first but before anyone responded to her cries the man sped away.

Neighbors and relatives who arrived on the scene after the intruder escaped reported that they were aroused by her cries and came to her rescue as soon as possible. A relative says he heard her screaming but due to the fact that he was crippled he was not able to move swiftly enough to see the man.

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NAB PREACHER AS BOOTLEGGER

WHITEVILLE—Following a raid on a "white whiskey" still near his church, police arrested Rev. Charles Alex Ford of Ransom Township and charged him with manufacturing and possessing non-taxpaid whiskey.

The raid was one of four conducted by Columbus County Sheriff J. R. Pridgen and his men over the weekend. Six cases of whiskey, 400 gallons of mash and eight barrels were destroyed along with the still.

At Asheboro, local police and Randolph County sheriff's officers arrested five persons following raids in the Negro section, June, Jimmy and Harvey Davis and Mildred and Esther Cheek all posted \$500 bonds for their appearance in Recorder's Court this week.

Hint "Bootleg War" (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



RECORD LAW SUIT—The first suit of this kind in the history of this year was against the city of Chicago for \$1,175,000 in damages. The suit was filed on behalf of these two youngsters, Howard Taylor, 7, and his sister Mary, 5. The suit charges that the youngsters were burned when a truck, driven by the Fire department, was used in the form of an explosion as the children played nearby. Looks like the fire are contemplating how to use the money, if they win. (Newspress Photo)

THE CAROLINIAN

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Was "Heart" Victim Poisoned?

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ST. AUGUSTINE'S EXECUTIVE BOARD TO DISCUSS PREXY

The circumstances that have shrouded the actions of the trustee board in the handling of the resignation of St. Augustine's president, Dr. H. L. Trigg, and the secrecy that has been held chest-tight as to why and wherefore, are expected to be aired after a meeting of the executive committee of the trustee board, which will be held here Tuesday.

Bishop E. A. Penick, chairman of the 10-member executive committee told the CAROLINIAN this week that there would be no statement until after the committee met. It was definitely established that the head of the Episcopal school tendered his resignation to the board of trustees at its last meeting. Efforts to get any detailed information concerning the conditions, under which the resignation was obtained, have proved futile, thus far.

Others on the committee are: Revs. James McDowell Dick, Joseph B. Cheshire, and Colonel J. W. Harrelson, all of Raleigh; Rev. Tom T. Edwards, Durham; Rev. Henry Egger and Samuel Thurgood, both of Fayetteville; Dr. Claiborne S. Jones and Rev. David W. Yates, of Chapel Hill; and Rev. Robert J. Johnson, who is the secretary of the board, Wilson.

The CAROLINIAN learned from reliable sources that the trustee board had been asked on several occasions to seriously consider the conditions at St. Augustine's due to the alleged rapid-fire turn over in faculty members and the decline in scholarship work done at the college.

The requests are reported to have fallen to deaf ears, until a so-called rebel group of the board insisted that the entire affair be aired. Members of the trustee board, including Bishop Penick, who have been requested to give the facts pertaining to the matter serious thought, have intimated that something was wrong, but have successfully evaded the press and the public, by saying a statement would be forthcoming after the executive committee meeting.

Dr. Trigg told the CAROLINIAN that he would make a statement on Thursday of last week. When contacted this week he

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TRUE IDEOLOGY—Distinguished American educator, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, who founded the National Council of Negro Women, is shown with Dr. William Nkomo (left) of Reforia, So. Africa, and Michael Ogo, member of the Nigerian Parliament, as the three met in Washington recently for a meeting of the World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament. Dr. Nkomo was the founder and first president of the African National Congress. Youth League. Once pledged to "bloody revolution" he now says that moral re-armament is bringing to Africa "the true ideology of freedom." (Newspress Photo)

PAROLED YOUTH HELD IN JAIL AS "HEP" THIEF

Local citizens were able to rest a little more comfortably Tuesday night when the information was flashed around town that a suspect had been taken into custody for several of the unsolved burglaries, which are believed to have been committed by a bare-foot thief.

Paul D. Galloway, 23, who was released from the Youth Center, located about one mile from Raleigh near Garner, in November, was arrested Tuesday and fingerprint expert W. P. Whitley had identified his prints as belonging to the person who committed at least four of the crimes.

Sheriff Pleasant told the CAROLINIAN that Galloway had not confessed any of the crimes, but that the authorities felt sure that he was the guilty person. He was placed along side of two honor prisoners in the County Jail on

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REV. GEO. A. FISHER

YOUNG ROBBER IS SENTENCED

HIGH POINT—Sixteen-year-old Cicero Castell, who police say admitted breaking into a safe and taking \$1,800, in order to hire a lawyer to represent him in two pending theft cases, was sentenced in Superior Court on Monday

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Rev. Fisher Cited Shrine Man Of Year

The Rev. George A. Fisher, rector of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church here and president of the Raleigh Citizens' Association has been named "Citizen of the Year" for 1954 by Katala Temple No. 177, Shriner.

According to Dr. Malcolm D. Williams, chairman of the committee which nominated Rev. Fisher, the militant minister and civic leader was chosen because of his unrelenting fight for better facilities and standing for Negroes of the city.

The committee, composed of Dr. N. L. Perry, Silas Webb, William Donaldson, and Williams listed the following specific reasons why Rev. Fisher was chosen "Citizen of the Year."

1. During 1954, along with the Citizens' Committee, he fought for better hospitalization in Raleigh and is continuing his fight for better hospital care for Negroes by getting details on the proposed

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Home Ownership Up In '54

More liberal mortgage insurance by the Federal Housing Authority encouraged more Negroes in North Carolina to construct or purchase homes in 1954 than in the previous year, the North Carolina FHA office reported this week.

The easing of FHA restrictions, it is reported was aimed mainly at making more new housing available to minority groups and Joseph H. Ray, the agency's race relations officer says that it should result in a significant increase in the volume of housing available to minorities during 1955.

Steps Listed
 Ray listed the following as "progressive steps" taken during the year which, he said, brought nearer "the full solution of the crucial and critical housing problems facing minorities."

1. Providing more liberal mortgage insurance by the FHA and Veterans' Administration, under the Housing Act of 1954.
2. Persuading home builders and lenders to accept a fuller measure of their responsibility to serve minority housing committees by the National Association of Home Builders and the Mortgage Bankers Association to plan and sponsor lead-enlarged activity on this front by their membership.
3. Sponsoring an Advisory

Conference on Housing for Minority Families which was attended by some 40 leading representatives of home builders, mortgage lenders, a real estate boards and brokers and civic, social and religious groups.

4. Reorganizing and expanding the Racial Relations Service in



DR. BENETTA B. WASHINGTON

AKA'S TO HEAR DC COUNSELOR

Dr. Benetta Bullock Washington, of Washington, D. C., will be the speaker at the 11:00 A. M. worship service, January 23, 1955 at the First Baptist Church.

A graduate of Howard University and Catholic University, Dr. Washington is presently employed as Guidance Counselor of Washington, D. C. Public Schools; teaching Community and Field Service Division of New York University in Baltimore Maryland, and visiting Lecturer in the Department of Guidance and Personnel Administration of New York University.

She is editor of Newsletter

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Dig Up Body Of Man Who Died Dec. 10

BURLINGTON—The body of 41-year-old Eugene McCulley of Mebane who died last December 10, apparently of a heart attack, was exhumed on Friday morning following a report that the man may have been poisoned.

The body was taken from a grave in the Presbyterian Church cemetery behind the Mebane school and an autopsy performed by Dr. George Kerr, local pathologist. Dr. Kerr advised Dr. J. B. Walker, Jr., Alamance county coroner, that his examination showed that McCulley did not die of natural causes, thus ruling out the earlier verdict that he had died of a heart condition.

Tissues from vital organs were forwarded to Duke Hospital and a report is expected this week on whether McCulley was poisoned or not. The man was found in the yard of his home about 3:30 p.m. on December 10. He was removed to his home where he died about 5 p.m.

Complained of Pains
 Dr. Walker with Dr. George Bullard of Mebane, joined Sheriff Joe Cole at the McCulley home and they ruled that there was no evidence of foul play. They were told that McCulley, said to have been a heavy drinker, had complained of serious pains around his heart.

The only mark they found was on his lip and they agreed that this probably was sustained when the man fell in his yard. Dr. Walker, however, presented new evidence in the case given to him by Police Chief D. W. Smith of Mebane and SBI Agent J. P. Thomas of Chapel Hill to show that McCulley may have been poisoned.

With the permission of the widow, Dr. Walker ordered the body to be exhumed.

N. C. CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS IN CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE—A number of Negro clergymen and laymen are expected to attend the 18th annual meeting of the North Carolina Council of Churches to be held at the Covenant Presbyterian Church here January 25 and 26.

N. C. COLLEGE HEALTH HEAD DIED TUESDAY

DURHAM—Mrs. Latis M. Campbell, 38, who has served as chairman of the department of public health nursing since July 1, 1954, died in Lincoln Hospital here Tuesday after an extended illness, but her death came as a surprise to the college family.

She was known to have suffered from a heart condition since early fall. She became critically ill several weeks ago and it was necessary for her to be admitted to the local hospital.

Funeral arrangements were not complete at press time, but a member of the family felt that tentative plans call for the body to lie in state at the Holy Cross Catholic Mission Church here until it would be shipped to Detroit, Michigan, where burial will take place.

Before coming to Durham where she lived at 2008 Fayetteville St., Mrs. Campbell lived one year in Greensboro where she was associate dean and professor of public health nursing at A&T College there.

Mrs. Campbell held many responsible positions in nursing education in New York, Washington, Detroit and West Virginia before coming to North Carolina.

She was a native of Pine Bluff, Ark., where she was born on April 20, 1916, one of three daughters of the late Floyd Caver and Mrs. Artha Caver. She is survived by one daughter, Theresa Melba Campbell, 4, of the home; her mother, Mrs. Artha Caver Meigs of Detroit; and two sisters, Mrs. Floy Sibrice of Los Angeles, Calif., and Miss Theresa Caver of Detroit.

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FREE WHITE MAN IN AUTO DEATH

GREENVILLE—George Edward Jones, 17-year-old youth, was freed by a coroner's jury here Monday night when he was tried for the killing of David McCulley, Saturday, about 11:45 P. M., with a truck, at the intersection of Second and Green Streets.

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BEATEN IN HER HOME—Mrs. Willa Hamme Gregory, Oxford school teacher, who was beaten in bed at her home Sunday morning is pictured above. Mrs. Gregory could not give the officers or the newspaper any clues as to whom she thought her assailant might be.

State News Briefs

FOUNDER'S DAY OBSERVED

Dr. Howard W. McNeill, Pontiac, Michigan physician, was featured speaker at the 88th annual Founder's Day exercises held at St. Augustine's College, Sunday afternoon. Dr. McNeill, who is a graduate of St. Augustine's, spoke on "School Desegregation." Other speakers included Dr. John H. Horton, president of the Alumni Association.

MAXTON MAN FATALLY SHOT

MAXTON—Milton Patterson, 17-year-old Maxton resident was shot to death at the Rainbow Inn on U. S. Highway 84 five miles north of here Saturday night about midnight. Roseberry Barnes, 24, also of this town, has been arrested and charged with the fatal deed. He is being held without bond on a charge of homicide. Patterson was shot through the heart with a pistol and was pronounced dead upon arrival at St. Joseph's Hospital here Tuesday.

Officers reported that they did not ascertain the cause of the shooting, but said that Barnes was arrested here Saturday night after a search of the cause of the shooting. An inquest is slated, but the time has not been definitely set.

ARREST ? IN BOOZE CRACKDOWN

ASHEBORO—The Randolph County Sheriff's department and the Asheboro city police continued their war on illegal liquor traffic in the city and county last weekend with the arrest of seven persons. This brought to sixteen the number of persons arrested by the two departments

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KNIFE-WIELDING THIEF LOSES IN CHASE WITH COPS

Louise Williams, town of Monday afternoon that she would not pay and certainly it was profitable to try to hide one thing with another when he is able to have picked up a \$12.95 note in Kress' Department Store. Williams is said to have been first noticed by one of the guards of the store as he walked through the basement. She continued to watch him and when he tucked the radio under his overcoat, she informed another employee, Moore, who followed him upstairs and into Fayetteville Street.

Williams was unable to locate the cord. Moore got a little scared when he also saw Williams take a knife from one pocket and put it in another. It was then that Moore snatched the aid of another employee, Culbertson.

They decided that it was time to tackle Williams and accosted him in front of the store. Moore asked him what he had and reached under his coat and took the radio. The taking of the radio brought the knife from Williams' pocket. He stepped back and began wielding the knife in Moore's face.

Williams did not use the knife on either of the men and started running up Fayetteville Street. He crossed Capitol Square. By this time the two men had been joined by Police Officer F. I. Denton.

They continued their pursuit and finally captured Williams at the 100 block of N. Wilmington Street, where he sought refuge in a garage behind a house.

Williams is now in the City Jail, where he is being held subject to a \$500 bond, charged with larceny and with assault with a deadly weapon.

John T. Merritt, Public School Employee, Buried

John T. Merritt, well-known and highly respected citizen of 725 South East Street, Raleigh, died at his home Monday afternoon after an illness of several months. Mr. Merritt, 53, years of age, was a native of Wake County and spent all of his life in Raleigh.

He was in the employ of the Raleigh public schools and had been so for many years. Held in high esteem by those young and old who came in contact with him, Mr. Merritt was at the time of his death a deacon in the First Congregational Church, a Mason and a Shriner.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 from the First Congregational Church with the Reverend Howard Cunningham, pastor, officiating. Interment was in Mount Hope Cemetery.

Mr. Merritt is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mozelle Dixon Merritt.

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