

Charlotte's Murder Row Claims Another

2 RAPE TRIALS UNDERWAY

Tan Trio Nabbed In \$160,000 Robbery

Dad Gives Police Tip-Off; \$30,000 of Grab Is Missing

WASHINGTON
An anguished, conscience-stricken father set police on the trail of his daughter and son-in-law here Monday, and a few hours later, Secret Service Police made the arrest of the couple to crack a \$160,000 robbery of newly printed money from the Federal Bureau of Engraving.

Held as the key figure in the bold, unprecedented New Year's eve theft in which \$160,000 in freshly printed 20 dollar bills were whisked away from under the nose of armed guards is James Rufus Landis, 29, a long trusted employee of the Bureau. Some \$128,300 of the money was recovered in the arrest.

Landis' wife, Mrs. Mamie Landis, was also arrested and charged with currency theft. A neighbor who lives in the same apartment house, William Giles, was picked up soon after the Landis' arrest at a local tavern and held as an accessory.

The baffling disappearance of the \$160,000, all in new \$20 bills, from the heavily guarded and tightly screened currency printing plant, was solved through a heart-rending struggle which the arrested woman's father fought with his conscience.

Irving Grant, a servant at a Fauquier County, Va. farm blurted out his story over the telephone Monday to Virginia State trooper S. S. Secrist.

His message to Trooper Secrist was simple: "I've got a big pile of Treasury money...I'm scared to death."

Swiftly, Virginia State police sped to the farm, located about 50 miles southeast of Washington, and found \$95,000 in a new metal tool box, and heard the rest of Grant's story.

According to conscience-wracked, worried father, his daughter, her husband and a

friend of theirs drove down Sunday night from Washington in a newly bought Oldsmobile, bragged that they had "pulled a smoothie" and asked him to bury the money until "it cools off a little."

As quoted by Secret Service

Chief U. E. Baughman, Grant refused to hide the money at first but changed his mind when one of the men drew a gun. His daughter and her companion gave him \$3,000 wrapped in a gray sock for his help.

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Bank Gains Cited



Pictured above are stockholders of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank listening to the report of the Bank's condition at the annual meeting held in Durham this week.

Principals Reversed In Trials On At Durham And Warrenton

Trials in two rape cases, in which the racial identity of the principals are the reverse of one another, got underway in Durham and Warrenton this week.

In Durham, four Orange County Negroes face Superior Court trial on charges of rape of a 28-year-old Chatham County white woman. In Warrenton, two white men face Warren County Superior Court trial on charges of raping a 16-year-old Negro school girl.

Things moved somewhat slowly in the Durham trial this week with most of the first two days being taken up with the selection of a jury. At press time, the jury was only partially complete, with five jurors remaining to be selected.

One Negro was selected from among the seven who had been named by press time to hear the case. He is Fletcher Parker, a farmer, who lives on the Farrington Road.

The four defendants are Wil-

20; John Brooks, 25; and Othello Shaw, 24; Claudius Parrish, Roberts, 19. They face possible death sentences if convicted.

Attorney M. H. Thompson, retained to defend the quartet, reserved any comment he had concerning the possible length of the case when queried early this week.

Shaw, Parrish, Brooks and Roberts are accused of criminally assaulting Mrs. Sims and beating up her companion, Elwood Burgess, on the night of August 19 after forcing their automobile off the Fayetteville Road about two and one half miles south of the city.

At Warrenton Walter Hill Harris and his cousin, Jesse Harris face trial on charges of raping 16-year-old Bettie Mae Mills on November 21.

According to complaint filed with police by the young girl, Walter Harris lured her to his house on the pretext of having her do some cleaning. While she was there, she was attacked

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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

FOR THIRTY YEARS THE OUTSTANDING WEEKLY OF THE CAROLINAS

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CIVIC WORKER LAUDED BY HOUSEWIVES

DURHAM

One of the city's relative newcomers who has busied himself in civic and community work was honored as the year's outstanding citizen by the Durham Housewives' League at its New Year's Eve dinner here last week.

Actually, Nathaniel B. White, newly elected president of the Durham Business and Professional Chain, was given a trophy designated as an "Achievement Award" by the League. It was presented by Mrs. J. DeShazor, president-emerita of the League.

White received the award with "humble and sincere appreciation," and promised increased activity in the affairs of "my fellow townsmen."

Mrs. Callie Daye, president of the Housewives' League, said that the award is the first in a series to be given annually to "deserving Durhams."

A transplanted Virginian by way of Norfolk, White moved to Durham in 1939 and began his earliest venture in community work with the city's oldest troop of Negro Scouts, 55, at White Rock Baptist Church. He has been scoutmaster of the troop since 1942 and is generally credited with giving a large share of the impetus to scouting in the city which it has received in latter years. In addition, he is vice-chairman of the Durham Division of the Occaneechee Council.

One of the oldest workers in the Durham Business and Professional Chain organization, White has served that body in various capacities, including two or three terms on its board of directors. He is now president of the group.

Seeing the need for help from the city and by the community's own residents for improving his neighborhood, located in the

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Pictured above is N. B. White, newly elected president of the Durham Business and Professional Chain, being awarded the Housewives' League First Annual Achievement Award for 1953 by Mrs. Mrs. J. DeShazor Jackson, First Vice-President of the Chain.

This trophy is presented each year to the member of the

Durham Business and Professional Chain and Housewives' League for outstanding achievement in the following: religious, civic, home and community.

Impulse To Grab Sack Of \$\$\$\$\$ Said Natural

WASHINGTON
Arthur Edson, Associated Press feature writer, quoted two leading psychologists in a signed story appearing in many of the AP members papers in this territory Wednesday which said that the impulse to take a large stack of money, within easy reach, is natural.

Says Edson in the lead paragraph of the story: "Don't be alarmed if, whenever you see a large stack of money, you have a sudden yearning to grab it and take it with you."

Further in the story he quotes Dr. Winifred Overholser, famed psychiatrist and superintendent of the St. Elizabeth Hospital, and Dr. William J. Morgan, consulting psychologist at Merrifield, Virginia, who back up this view. Edson quoted Dr. Overholser thusly:

"The acquisitive instinct seems to be fundamental in human nature . . .

"I think you have the same feeling when you pass a bakery with all those nice smells. For a moment, it's hard to resist the impulse to grab a loaf and start eating. Of course, nearly everyone does resist.

To a question posed by Edson as to whether "anyone ever loses control and grab money impulsively, Dr. Overholser is credited with replying:

"Well certainly there wasn't anything impulsive about the way the money was taken down at the bureau of engraving. That obviously was planned. But occasionally a man who has led a life of probity suddenly gives in and commit a criminal act."

NEW BRANCH OPENS JAN. 15

DURHAM

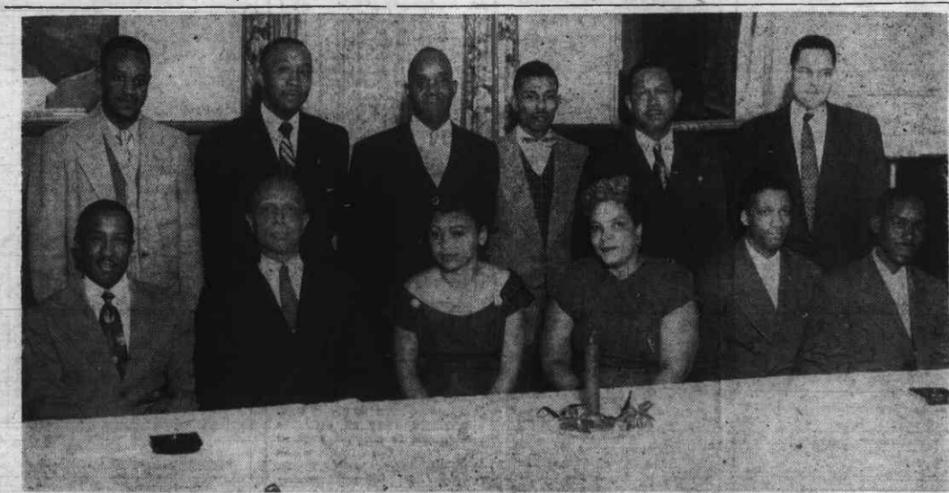
With assets of over six and three-quarter million dollars, representing the increase of \$785,389.61 during the year, the Mechanics and Farmers Bank held its annual meeting here Monday evening, Jan. 4 in the lobby of the bank, located at 114 Parrish Street.

According to J. H. Wheeler, president of the bank, the meeting was attended by one of the largest and most enthusiastic groups of stockholders he has ever seen at an annual meeting. Mr. Wheeler's report, which was read by I. O. Funderburg, cashier, showed that the bank now has total resources of \$6,745,254.86. After extending thanks to Dr. Clyde Donnell, Chairman of the Board of Directors, "for the business-like manner in which he has steered the work of the Board and paying tribute to its other members for their splendid attendance records, the president announced that the new branch of the bank, located on the corner of Elm and Fayetteville Streets, will open for business January 15. Total cost of the new branch structure, including land, building, architects fees, vault door fixtures, etc. will be \$98,000.

The general public, together with all stockholders and depositors are invited to attend the opening which will be in the form of open house from four to nine o'clock in the evening.

Said the report further, "The Securities portfolio of the bank continues to consist largely of United States Government securities (book value \$2,219,154.01), Federal Agency Issues (book value \$40,250.00), and municipal and state bond (book value \$389,682.00). Corporate securities are represented by \$25,000 par value of American Telegram and Telephone 2-3/4% Bonds of 1971 and \$10,000 par value of Phillips Petroleum Company 3.78% Debentures of 1963. Both of these issues are rated Aa by Moody's Investors Service. All of the state and municipal securities are also prime investment quality and are rated Aa, Aa, or Aaa by Moody's Investors Service."

The president's report also (Please turn to Page Eight)



The above photo is that of the newly elected officials of the Durham Business and Professional Chain who were installed in office at the annual meeting of the Chain held at the Algonquin Club here Sunday afternoon, December 31. Those seated and reading from left to right are, D. F. Reed, member of the Board; L. E. Austin, retiring

president and member of the Board; Mrs. Callie Daye, president of the Housewives' League and member of the Board; Mrs. J. DeShazor Jackson, first vice-president; N. B. White newly elected president and Kelly Bryant, secretary. Standing from left to right are, Henry Gillis, member of Board; L. E. Fraiser, member of Board; E. B. Bass, member

of Board; George D. White, member of Board; J. C. Hubbard, member of Board and I. O. Funderburg, cashier of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank who installed the officers.

Officers not shown are Mrs. P. H. McNeill, second vice-president; W. E. Strayhorne, assistant secretary; J. J. Han-

Handcuffed Prisoner Is Slain By Alabama Sheriff

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The wanton slaying of Moses Jones in Grove Hill, Ala., by Clarke County Sheriff Jenkins A. Hill, against whom the dead man had testified in federal court, brought an immediate demand from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People upon the U. S. Department of Justice for "prompt and vigorous prosecution to the limit of the law" against the sheriff.

Arrested by the sheriff on a

charge of failing to pay a fine of \$150, Fr. Jones was shot to death in the county jail on Dec. 28. Although the slain man was handcuffed and unarmed and in the custody of the sheriff, the killer claimed self-defense. He is reported to have said that he shot the prisoner when the latter "jumped me and tried to take my gun away, so I shot him three times." There were no witnesses.

In Alabama, Mrs. Ruby Hurley, the Association's regional secretary located in Birmingham, urged United States Attorney Percy Fountain in Mobile to make an immediate and

thorough investigation of the slaying.

Clarence Mitchell, director of the NAACP Washington bureau, called upon Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III to prosecute Sheriff Hill under the civil rights statute and other applicable laws.

Jones had testified in a federal liquor case that the sheriff had beat him when he refused to pay "protection" money for the illegal manufacture of whiskey. The case ended in a mistrial for Hill.

Knife Wielder Shot In Scrape With Patrolman

CHARLOTTE

"Murder Corner," where East First and McDowell Streets meet here, claimed another victim here early Sunday morning as a police bullet cut down a unidentified knife-wielding assailant.

Officer J. F. Hoffman of Charlotte's Negro police contingent pumped a lethal slug into a man who is alleged to have repeatedly threatened officers trying to arrest him.

The report of Patrolman George Williamson, to the Detective Division told the following story of the incident.

Williamson was summoned to eject a drunk from Oscar's Grill, located at the now infamous McDowell-East First Street intersection. When he arrived at the eatery, he found the man slumped on the counter, a sandwich and a cup of coffee in front of him.

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Ham-Whiskey Barter Nets Terms For Two

DUNN

A man swapped a ham for a drink of booze here recently and the deal may get him a stiff jail sentence.

The only thing wrong with the barter was that the man had to break into the Ideal Grocery to get the ham with which to make the swap.

Sam McNeill, 32, was bound over to Superior Court under a \$500 bond after he pleaded guilty to breaking and entering and larceny.

The party of the second part in this transaction, Malcolm Geddie, 37, was given 90 days in jail for receiving the stolen ham.

Geddie made a bargain with McNeill that he would give the latter a half pint of liquor in exchange for some meat. So McNeill, a man not without ingenuity, made off with a ham from the Ideal Grocery and turned it over to Geddie.

Police picked up Geddie as he tried to sell part of the ham.