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WHOLE NO. 2666

SUPERIOR COURT.

Jury Selected for Trial of Gus Hunt, Charged With Murder of His Wife—Trial Begun This Afternoon—Grand Jury's Report—Disposition of Cases.

The term of Robeson Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases which began Monday, Judge C. M. Cook of Louisburg presiding, has been kept steadily at work and much business has been disposed of. A civil term begins Monday.

The trial of Gus Hunt, Indian, charged with the murder of his wife Mary, September 25, 1910, near Fairmont, began this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Just before court adjourned at 12:30 for the noon recess the following jury was selected to try this case from the special venire of 100: D. T. Rozier, D. R. Caddell, Jas. Graham, Richard Walters, E. B. Freeman, N. T. Humphrey, E. M. Paul, H. C. McMillan, F. W. Floyd, A. A. Williams, J. A. Boone, Jr., L. B. Barnes. Solicitor Sinclair is being assisted by Messrs. McLean, Varner & McLean. Messrs. McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor are appearing for the defendant. It is expected that this trial will continue through tomorrow.

The grand jury, K. M. Barnes, foreman, submitted its report this morning. It reported that 38 bills of indictment were passed upon, 35 true bills being found and 3 not true bills. The work that came before it, says the jury, very forcibly demonstrates the prevalence of crime among the negroes of the county and the law-abiding citizenship of the county is urged and begged to exert every effort to promote a greater respect for law and order and a higher degree of civic righteousness among this race. Eight presentments were made.

The jury did not visit the county home but endorsed the recommendations made by former juries for better provision for the care of the inmates and recommended that the keeper be required to cultivate and try to improve the county farm.

The jail was found to be in good condition, considering the congestion due to the large number of prisoners confined there during the past few weeks, and when the jail is relieved through this term of court it was recommended that it be cleaned up and disinfected. Also a leaking water-pipe was found which should be repaired.

The county offices were investigated by committee and found in good condition, records apparently being properly kept. Mention was made of the fact that the county commissioners have agreed to purchase at a cost of \$500 the index system prepared by Mr. W. Lennon for the heretofore unindexed records in the office of the clerk of the court from 1786 down to about 35 years ago, when the present system of indexing began, so that now there is a complete index of all records in this office. Mention was also made of improved methods of keeping records in the offices of the treasurer and sheriff, installed by County Auditor Parmele, whereby it will be possible to keep more accurate account of all county funds; also the placing by Auditor Parmele of the county superintendent of public instruction to keeping books, so that more accurate information may be obtained from this office.

It was recommended that a metal bookcase be purchased and placed in the court room in which to keep the North Carolina Reports that are now kept in an open case in the clerk of the court's office. As they are now kept they are in danger of being lost.

The jury understands that the dirty and unkempt condition of the court house is due in part to the fact that it is used Sundays and nights by irresponsible men and boys who use it as a place for gambling and carousing. This is severely condemned and the commissioners are urged to see that the house is kept locked when not in use by the officers.

The janitor service was condemned strongly, the court house being found in dirty and bad condition all over, and it was recommended that the court

place the responsibility of employing a janitor and seeing that he does his duty upon the sheriff.

The steps that have been made this week by the chairman of the board of county commissioners and the mayor of Lumberton to beautify the court house square were heartily commended by the jury and it was recommended that this work be done in such a thorough manner as to be in keeping with the beauty and magnificence of the court house.

Judge Cook complimented the grand jury very highly, stating that it was perhaps the most efficient jury that had ever served under him, and he also complimented the matter and wording of the jury's report.

The grand jury returned 5 true bills for murder, as follows: Wm. Stephens, for murder of Wm. Austin March 3, 1911; Chess Green for murder of Lewis Purcell February 3, 1911—removed by court to Hoke county; Jno. and Hattie McEachin for murder of John's wife Mary Lee at Maxton Jan. 20, 1911—burned to death; Lon Mourning and Frank Blue for murder of Alfred Cheek at Fairmont Apr. 5, 1911; Jim Byrd and Warren West for murder of Wm. Smith, Jr., in East Lumberton Apr. 7, 1911.

Bud Munroe, assault; not guilty; c. c. w.; plead guilty; judgment suspended.

Jno. Arch McCallum, a. d. w. and c. c. w.; guilty; 6 months on roads.

Earlman Lennon, a. d. w.; plead guilty.

Chas. Blacker, retailing, 3 cases, guilty; 18 months on roads, later sentence changed to 12, defendant having been in jail 3 months.

Fred Lawson, larceny; guilty, with recommendation to mercy; 1 year in State prison at hard labor.

Frank Davis, c. c. w.; plead guilty; 90 days on roads.

Jno. Purcell, retailing, 2 cases; plead guilty; 2 months on roads.

Culley Bethea, larceny; guilty; 4 months on roads.

Lacy Robeson, c. c. w.; guilty; 2 months on roads; larceny; guilty; 4 months on roads.

Walter McKinnon, a. d. w.; guilty.

Jet Bethea, assault with intent to commit rape; not guilty.

Jim Smith, larceny, changed to trespass, and plea of nolo contendere accepted; 60 days on roads.

Jno. Blue, c. c. w.; removed to Hoke county.

Gus Thompson, alias Snowflake Thompson, larceny; changed to trespass, plead guilty; judgment suspended on payment costs.

Tom Pate, Pete Vallase, Bascom Meares, gambling; guilty; Pate, costs and 6 months on public roads, beginning Sept. 1; Meares and Vallase, \$25 each and costs.

McDiarmid-Williams Lumber Co. Plant Sold.

The saw-mill plan and holdings of the McDiarmid-Williams Lumber Co., situated on the Fayetteville road about 10 miles from Lumberton, sold here Tuesday by Commissioners Chas. G. Rose and T. A. Lyon, was bid in by Dr. C. M. Townsend of Raynham at \$7,500. The sale, of course, has not been confirmed yet but unless some one raises the bid soon the property will belong to Mr. Townsend. The following from Fayetteville were in town in connection with this sale: Messrs. J. O. Ellington, C. C. McAllister, T. A. Lyon, C. G. Rose, W. S. Cooper and Chas. Rankin.

Death of Mr. Gray Culbreth of Parkton.

Fayetteville Observer 15th.

Mr. Gray Culbreth, son of Mr. D. C. Culbreth, died at the home of his parents at Parkton Sunday morning at 7 o'clock. Mr. Culbreth, who was a deputy register of deeds of Cumberland under Mr. W. M. Walker, was a young man of fine character and had many friends in Fayetteville. He was a great sufferer from rheumatism but bore his affliction with Christian fortitude.

The remains passed through Fayetteville this morning on the way to Manchester, where they were interred this afternoon in the family burying ground.

DEVILTRY.

Sneaking and Cowardly Attempt to Put Light and Power Plant Out of Commission—False Fire Alarms—Citizens of Town Aroused Over Act of Some Miserable Wretch or Wretches—Commissioners Offer Reward.

Some of the most high-handed and outrageous attempts to do damage, for some unknown cause, have been made in town this week.

Monday evening about 8 o'clock Mr. C. B. Skipper, clerk of court, returned to his office from supper and tried to turn on his lights, but there was nothing doing. So Mr. Skipper phoned Mr. Gerald Pittman, who has the power plant in charge, that there was something wrong with the lights at the court house. Mr. Pittman was on hand in a few minutes and upon investigation it was found that somebody, evidently one who knew his business, had wrapped the main switch in the basement with a wire in such a manner that it blew out all the fuses in the building. Mr. Pittman says that if the wire had been placed just a little lower on the switch it might have caused considerable damage at the power house, in spite of safety appliances; and it is thought that that is what was intended. Regardless of what may have been intended, the damage done did not amount to much and the lights in the court house were out only a few minutes.

But with the trouble mentioned above, the low, mean and underhand work does not stop; for on the same night about 2 o'clock the fire alarm was turned in from box No. 43, on Elm street, at Mr. A. T. Parmele's residence, and there was no fire, and no one knew who turned in the alarm. And even yet the mischief does not stop for Tuesday night something after 11 o'clock the alarm was turned in again from box No. 25, on Cedar street, at Dr. Williams' residence. There was no fire and no one owns sending in the alarm. From tracks found at the box from which the alarm was sent in Tuesday night, it is believed that the work was done by some barefooted person; and while the police force is not talking much it is thought that eyes are on somebody.

The town has offered \$200 reward for the man that tampered with the wires at the court house and a reward of \$100 has been offered for the fire-alarm meddlers.

Citizens of the town are thoroughly aroused over these outrages and no effort will be spared to bring the miserable wretch or wretches to justice.

DEATHS.

Mrs. Chas. McD. Smith of Rowland a Victim of Pellagra.

Mrs. Chas. McD. Smith, about 34 years old, died of pellagra at her home in Rowland Tuesday about noon. The remains were interred yesterday morning at the cemetery at Asbury Methodist church at Raynham. Deceased is survived by her husband and four children.

Mr. Joel Donnie Townsend.

Mr. Joel Donnie Townsend, aged 20 years, died Tuesday afternoon of consumption at the home of his brother Mr. Frank Townsend, near Raft Swamp church. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Haynes Townsend, both deceased. The funeral was conducted yesterday afternoon by Rev. J. M. Fleming, pastor of the Baptist church of East Lumberton, from the residence and the interment took place in the family graveyard. A large crowd attended the funeral. Deceased is survived by 4 brothers and 2 sisters.

Smallpox Prevalent—Better be Vaccinated.

Dr. W. A. McPhaul, county superintendent of health, reports several cases of smallpox at Bellamy, Powersville, in the Ten Mile section and across the river from Lumberton among the colored people. He warns all who have not been vaccinated that they had better do so at once.

Southern Presbyterian College Commencement—Meeting of Scottish Society of America—Alumnae Banquet.

The commencement exercises of the Southern Presbyterian College at Red Springs, which closed with the alumnae banquet last evening, has been the occasion of much interest in Red Springs this week. This was possibly in many respects the greatest commencement the college has ever had. Beside the commencement exercises the annual session of the Scottish Society of America was held at the college yesterday afternoon and there were more than 300 Scots present, representing many clans and sections. Rev. Dr. A. A. McGeachy of Charlotte—and, by the way, a native Robesonian—was the orator of the occasion. Mr. A. W. McLean, of Lumberton was elected president of the society for the ensuing year and Mr. B. F. McBryde was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

The alumnae banquet, beginning last evening at 8:30 o'clock and ending this morning between one and two o'clock, ended the exercises; and the banquet was the most elaborate ever given in the history of the college. Every class since 1898, except the class of 1902, was represented, and well represented at that. Many outsiders were honored with the opportunity of being present on this occasion and the guests in all possibly numbered about 200. The guests were led from the college parlors to the dining room by Dr. Vardell about 10 o'clock. Mr. A. W. McLean was toastmaster and toasts were responded to as follows: Rev. S. M. Rankin of Greensboro, "The Genesis of the College;" Rev. Dr. J. M. Rose of Laurinburg, "Our College in its Relationship to the Church;" Senator E. D. Smith of South Carolina, "The Alumnae;" W. K. Bethune of Lumberton, "The press and the Schools."

Because of the lack of time and space it is impossible to give a creditable report of the many good things brought to pass at Red Springs this week in this issue, but a fuller report will appear in Monday's Robesonian.

Robeson Milling Co. Elects Officers—Plant Not to be Moved Until After Present Crop.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Robeson Milling Company held here Tuesday the following directors were elected: W. M. Bridges, John Prevatt, W. K. Culbreth, J. L. Prevatt and H. H. Lowrie. At a subsequent meeting of the directors Mr. W. M. Bridges was elected president and Mr. W. K. Culbreth secretary and treasurer.

It was decided at this meeting to operate the mill at Pembroke for this crop in stead of moving it to Lumberton at once, as was intended by the company when reorganized here some weeks ago. The wheat crop for this season will be harvested in a short time, and it was not thought possible to move the plant here and erect it in time to handle the business, which is the reason for not undertaking to move the mill until this crop has been worked.

Beulah Briefs.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Beulah, May 16—The crops of this community seem very badly damaged on account of the great drought. Almost all the farmers are up with their work, and are waiting for rain.

Mr. Sandy Phillips is all smiles. It's another girl. Many of the folks have been to the show at Boardman, and report a nice time.

The smallpox which has been raging in this community has almost died out. "Aunt Polly."

Sheriff Lane of Dillon County, S. C., Wounded.

A meagre report was received here yesterday to the effect that Sheriff Lane of Dillon county, S. C., was accidentally shot and seriously wounded Tuesday by a member of a posse that was out with him looking for some criminals. He was taken to Florence, where an operation was performed, and at last account he was getting along nicely. No particulars have been learned.

TOWN FATHERS MEET.

Rewards Offered for Wretches Who Have been Tampering With Light Wires and Fires Alarms—Mr. Gerald Pittman Elected Superintendent of Light and Water Plant—Exit the Hog—Sanitary Conditions to be Improved.

At a meeting of the town commissioners held Tuesday evening it was ordered that a reward of \$200 be offered for the man that tampered with the electric wires at the court house Monday, and it was also ordered that a reward of \$100 be offered for the arrest of the party or parties turning in fire alarms Monday night and Tuesday evening.

A hog ordinance, making it a fine of \$10 to keep a hog within the town limits, was passed, and the chief of police was requested to enforce the law at once.

The sanitary committee was ordered to put the town in a sanitary condition and the committee was authorized to employ an inspector to be sent over the town at once to investigate the conditions that exist.

Mr. Gerald Pittman, who has had charge of the light and water plant since the resignation of Supt. E. J. McGuire the first of the month, was elected superintendent at a salary of \$75 per month, which is \$15 less than the former superintendent received. Mr. Pittman has had practically no experience in operating a plant of this kind, but he studied electricity in a course he completed a few years ago at the A. & M. College at Raleigh and is well qualified to take care of the job, which has been evidenced since he has had charge of the plant. Mr. Pittman has with him Mr. Joe Williams and two faithful firemen, Ed Love and Henry Gavin, both colored. Love and Gavin have been on the job for a long time and they are sticklers. Mr. Pittman has been laboring under disadvantages so far but he has been holding down the job like a veteran and his election to this position will meet with the hearty approval of all right-thinking people of the town.

Slogan Suggestions for Lumberton—Contest to Close Monday.

Slogan suggestions for the town of Lumberton will not be published after next Monday's Robesonian. All who care to enter the contest for the \$5 offered by the Industrial and Commercial Club will please send in their suggestions at once. The following have been received since Monday:

Lumberton ahead and still succeeding.

Lumberton industrially and commercially ahead.

Wide-awake Lumberton.

Watch growing, hustling Lumberton.

I am working for Lumberton.

Are you?

Busy, bustling, lovely Lumberton.

A beautiful, cleanly Lumberton.

I will work for Lumberton.

Will you?

A Young Lumberton Attorney To Wed

Invitations reading as follows have been issued:

Mr. and Mrs. Isham J. Belch request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter Lela May

to Mr. Van H. Taylor, on Wednesday the thirty first of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven at half after three o'clock at home.

Bellamy, North Carolina.

Mr. Taylor is one of Lumberton's promising young attorneys. He and his bride will begin house-keeping at once in a house which he has recently built on Chippewa street.

Chief Justice Clark A Candidate

Raleigh Special 17th, to Wilmington Star.

Chief Justice Walter Clark, of the North Carolina Supreme Court, announced tonight his candidacy for the United States Senate against Senator Simmons and Governor Kitchin.

"Suffered day and night the torment of itching piles. Nothing helped me until I used Doan's Ointment. It cured me permanently."—Hon. John R. Garrett, Mayor, Grand, Ala.

LOCAL BRIEFS

A. G. Allen's minstrels will be in Lumberton Wednesday of next week and will give a performance under their own tent.

Mr. Jno. A. Oates, of Fayetteville, will deliver the commencement address at the Fairmont graded school Thursday of next week.

Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Pawnee Bill's Great Far East shows were shown at the opera house last night in motion pictures and pleased a large crowd.

Mr. Q. T. Williams went yesterday to Fayetteville, where he will adjust a loss for the Home Insurance Co. of New York. He expects to return today.

Mr. James P. Townsend, chief of Lumberton's fire-fighting force, went this morning to Charlotte to attend the firemen's tournament, which is being held there this week.

Mr. Stewart Starr, who recently moved his newspaper plant from Elizabethtown to St. Paul's, has sold out to some citizens of St. Paul's who are organizing a company to run a newspaper.

Kathryn, 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and John T. Singleterry, who live on Eighth street, while playing this morning about 9 o'clock fell and fractured one bone in her right arm just above the wrist. Dr. T. C. Johnson adjusted the broken bone and he thinks the little one will be all right in a few days.

Mrs. E. L. Holloway entertained yesterday afternoon at what in honor of her guest Mrs. Wm. M. Chalmers, of Madison, Wisconsin. Mrs. Chalmers left this morning for Charlotte, where she will spend some time visiting relatives. Mrs. Lizzie G. Proctor will entertain at her home on Elm street this afternoon at 4 o'clock in honor of her guest Mrs. J. D. Kernode, of Graham.

Rev. C. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church, and children, little Misses Wilma, Margaret and Kathleen, returned Tuesday from Gastonia, where they had been since the funeral of the wife and mother, whose remains were interred at Gastonia. With them came Mesdames H. B. Moore and Mary Morrow, of Gastonia, sisters of the late Mrs. Durham, who will spend a week or ten days here.

Messrs. T. W. Maxwell and L. H. Crouch, district manager and district traffic chief, respectively, of the Southern Bell Tel. Co., both with headquarters at Hamlet, were in town Tuesday and part of yesterday straightening out the service here, which has not been of the best since new switchboards were installed recently. It is thought that the service will improve, however, right away. It has taken the operators some time to get used to the new boards.

Ex-Sheriff Geo. B. McLeod, who was taken last week to the Highsmith hospital in Fayetteville for treatment, is getting along nicely. He underwent a slight operation Monday and it was found that his condition is not as serious as was at first thought. Mrs. McLeod and Messrs. Alf H. and Sandy McLeod were in Fayetteville Monday during the operation. Mr. Alf McLeod returned Monday evening and Mrs. McLeod and Mr. Sandy returned Tuesday. It is expected that Mr. McLeod will be able to return home soon.

Notices of New Advertisements.

How to save money by mail—Bank of Lumberton.

A. G. Allen's minstrel show next week.

Rewards offered by town of Lumberton for person or persons who tried to short-circuit the electric-lighting system of the town Monday night and turned in false fire alarms Monday and Tuesday nights.

Fresh cotton seed meal for sale—K. M. Biggs.

A watch has been lost.

The "Old Man" whomes says Antonio Corelli, teacher of voice culture, piano, pipe organ and theory, will visit Lumberton Tuesdays and Fridays.