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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1914

WHOLE NO. 2936

SUPERIOR COURT.

Dave Monroe, Negro Boy, Convicted of Rape and sentenced to be Executed March 20—Governor Will Be Asked by Counsel for Prosecution to Commute Sentence to Life Imprisonment on Account of Boy's Age—Ed Jones Submits to Burglary Entry—Other Cases—Court Will Probably Adjourn at End of Week.

A two-weeks' term of Robeson Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases convened Tuesday morning, Judge Geo. Rountree, who is presiding, being prevented by sickness from being present to open court Monday. Solicitor N. A. Sinclair is present to represent the State. The grand jury was duly impaneled and charged, the charge being along the usual lines. T. H. Flowers was sworn as foreman of the jury and Geo. A. Barnes as officer.

At 12:30 o'clock this afternoon Dave Monroe, a negro boy said to be 17 years old, was found guilty of the charge of criminally assaulting Sarah Currie, 5-year-old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. D. S. Currie of Parkton, and was sentenced to die in the electric chair in the penitentiary at Raleigh on the 20th day of next March. No defense was offered and the verdict was not resisted. It is understood that the prosecution and the presiding judge will unite with the defense in asking the Governor to commute the sentence to life imprisonment on account of the boy's age. He is undisciplined and does not appear to be more than 12 or 13 years old.

In charging the jury Judge Rountree took occasion to compliment Dr. Currie, father of the outraged girl, and his friends for allowing the law to take its course. They exhibited a spirit of supreme patriotism, declared Judge Rountree, and deserve the highest possible commendation. Their restraint under such severe provocation illustrates what civilization can do under the best circumstances. It has been stated in The Robesonian that Dr. Currie came upon the negro the day after the crime was committed and The Robesonian took occasion at the time to speak in highest terms of Dr. Currie's action in leaving the negro for the law to deal with.

The crime was committed last fall and the negro was taken to Hoke county for trial, but the case was removed to Robeson county. The negro was taken to the State prison at Raleigh for safe keeping—though he was no doubt perfectly safe in the Hoke county jail—and was brought from Raleigh this week for trial. The crime was committed during the absence of Dr. and Mrs. Currie from home and the boy was captured the following day.

Messrs. McLean, Varner & McLean and McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor of Lumberton were employed to assist Solicitor Sinclair in the prosecution. Mr. J. R. Baggett of Lillington appeared for the defendant.

Ed Jones, colored, who entered the home of Dr. A. B. Croom at Maxton about midnight one night last December, submitted to burglarious entry. Sentence has not yet been passed.

There is another capital case to be disposed of. Lacy McRae and Luke McCullum, colored, are to be tried on the charge of killing Jack Adams, colored, in Alfordville township on the 26th of last December.

It is probable that court will not last longer than this week.

Other cases have been disposed of as follows:

Dempsey and Lucile Love, assault with deadly weapon; not pros as to Dempsey; Lucile plead guilty; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Jack Hamer, plead guilty of simple assault; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Walter Leach plead guilty of forcible trespass; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Robert Locklear, larceny; plead guilty; 3 years in jail with leave to commissioners to hire out to Stephen Locklear for cost.

J. C. Lewis, perjury; not guilty.

Tom McLaughlin, retailing; plead guilty; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

S. V. Barefoot, assault with deadly weapon; plead guilty; prayer for judgment continued until next term of court on payment of costs.

Ada Wilson, et al, larceny; not guilty.

SCHOOL BUILDING BURNED.

New School Building in District No. 6, Howellsville, Destroyed by Fire of Unknown Origin Monday Night.—School Will Be Continued in Church.—History of Some Troubles Among Patrons of the School.

The public school building in district No. 6, Howellsville township, at Smith's church, was burned about midnight Monday night. The building was practically new, and cost about \$850. There was \$500 insurance. The teachers and children left the school house Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock, and only left some live coals in the heaters. Mr. Sandy Kinlaw passed the building about nine o'clock and didn't see any sign of fire. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction, met the committee at 12 o'clock Tuesday and arrangements were made to continue the school in the Baptist church, and only one day was lost, school beginning yesterday morning.

Prof. C. F. Mitchell is principal of the school and Miss Lizzie Hamilton is assistant.

Prof. Poole says so far this has been the best session in the school's history, and that more interest has been taken in school work in the district this year than ever. There are 72 children of school age in the district and the average attendance has been over 60. For this Prof. Poole gives the teachers, who, he says, are doing a fine work, much credit. There will be 7 weeks more of the school.

There seems to have been some neighborhood troubles among patrons of the school for some time. Mr. W. J. Mercer made complaint to the board of education some time ago about Mr. Dennis Wilkins' children attending the school, claiming that they were of mixed blood, and just before Christmas two of Mr. Mercer's boys, Murk and Henry, and some of Mr. Wilkins' children had a little row, and Wilkins indicted the Mercer boys for assault on his daughter Winnie Wilkins. As mentioned in Monday's Robesonian, the case was tried in the recorder's court here Saturday, the case being dismissed and Wilkin having to pay the cost, which amounted to \$16.45.

Another building will be erected before time for another term of school to open.

Tar Heel Topics.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.
Tar Heel, Jan. 28—Miss Brissson of Dublin visited her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Brissson, here last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Brackton Martin of Tolarsville visited Mr. and Mrs. Martin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Melvin, Sunday.

Miss Carrie Bedsole and brother Mr. Sidney of White Oak, No. 1, visited at the home of their uncle last Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. D. T. Regan and family left last Monday for their future home in Florida.

Mr. Alonzo aTum and Mr. Shaw: Ruskin spent last Thursday night here on business.

Mr. W. H. Monroe of Fayetteville spent part of last week here on business.

There was a right large crowd out last Thursday at the farmers' institute.

Mr. T. G. Empie of Wilmington was here part of last week on business.

Robeson 8,820 Bales of Cotton Behind Last Year.

Mr. J. W. Barnes of Barnesville, special agent for the Census Bureau at Washington, writes The Robesonian that there were 51,773 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, ginned in Robeson county from the crop of 1913 prior to January 16, as compared with 60,593 bales ginned prior to January 16, 1913.

A boy about his own age, Earl Townsend, on a night recently in Lumberton as the boys were returning from a society meeting at the graded school building. The boys began quarreling about something and words and actions finally led to Clarence cutting Earl on the left thigh, the wound requiring several stitches to sew up.

Nol Pros., with leave or otherwise has been entered in the following cases: Haywood Hall, forcible trespass; Bill McNeill, Bud Sheridan, Luther woods, carrying concealed weapon, also murder and assault with deadly weapon; Tom McNeill, assault with deadly weapon; Joe Ross, John Monroe, murder; Ernest McKeithan, larceny and receiving; Clarence McNeill, carrying concealed weapon.

Among the out-of-town attorneys who have attended court during the week are Hon. G. B. Patterson and Messrs. B. F. and S. B. McLean of Maxton, J. R. Baggett of Lillington, J. B. Clark of Elizabethtown, and Skull & McNaughton of Wilmington.

PARKTON PARAGRAPHS.

Methodist Quarterly Meeting — Mr. Vance Paul Victim of a Serious Accident—Among the Sick—Now is the Time for Early Gardening—Personal Mention.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.
Parkton, Jan. 27—Rev. H. B. Porter filled his regular appointment at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, preaching an excellent sermon to a large and appreciative congregation. Rev. R. B. John, presiding elder of the Fayetteville district, preached at night, following with the Lord's Supper, and on Monday at 11 o'clock the business of the first quarterly meeting was held. The three churches on the charge were represented.

The following spent Monday in Lumberton: Neill McNeill, J. B. McCormick, J. C. D. McNatt, Dr. and Mrs. D. S. Currie.

Miss Roena Odom of Carolina College, Maxton, spent Sunday and Monday with homefolks and returned to Maxton this morning.

Miss Ollie Odom of Bennettsville, S. C., is on a visit to her brother, Mr. J. T. Odom.

Mr. G. B. Parker and family have moved back to our town from Wade. Mr. Parker had been away a year or more, so you see that people that once lived here must come back. Mr. Parker has opened up a new blacksmith shop and will operate it.

Mr. J. T. Odom and family have moved from Goldsboro and will occupy Mr. A. McM. Blount's house. Mr. Overton has a position with Mr. A. J. Garris, our live stock man. We are glad to welcome all the above mentioned families to our town.

A serious accident happened in our town Monday evening about 2 o'clock when the young mule that Mr. Vance Paul was driving became frightened at a moving train near the depot and ran with him about two hundred yards and Mr. Paul was thrown violently out of the buggy on the ground and his left ankle dislocated and the bone fractured; and he was slightly hurt otherwise. Mr. Paul was soon taken to the Highsmith hospital in an automobile driven by Mr. Norman Perry, accompanied by Mr. A. A. Wright and Mr. Kinlaw. Dr. Highsmith rendered medical aid and treated the suffering man and he is now doing fairly well, but will not be able to return home under 2 weeks or more. The line broke or the bits, one or the other, is why the driver was thrown from the buggy. Mr. Paul lives on the farm of Mr. D. W. Marsh and is a prosperous and industrious farmer, and his painful accident is deplorable.

We are glad to report Mr. W. T. Fisher still improving. There are some few cases of pneumonia in town, mostly children, and we learn that they are doing fairly well. No smallpox so far and we trust will never have any more in our town.

Now is the accepted time to set early cabbage if you want them real early. They could have been set a month or more ago, so if you see some of your smart neighbors with a fine early garden, blame yourself. Also onions and turnips can be planted and many other early vegetables.

Mr. Inman believes in having plenty of firewood. His boarders need not suffer for fire. He cuts it by steam power and he is on the job.

The Parkton band was due to play at Philadelphus Friday but unavoidably couldn't get there.

Religious Census Being Taken.

The First Baptist church has a committee at work taking a religious census of the town. The committee, each member of which has a ward of his own to work, expect to get the exact number of white inhabitants of the town, also the exact number who are members of any church. Rev. C. H. Durham, the popular pastor of this church, says his idea in having this work done is to find out in what part of town the most effective religious work may be done.

The committee taking the census expects to complete its work this week. It is composed of Messrs. L. R. Varner, Frank Gough, M. W. Floyd, Jno. P. McNeill, W. I. Linkhaw, J. A. Branch, John T. Biggs, L. H. Caldwell, Q. T. Williams, T. L. Johnson, W. P. Barker, T. F. Barnes, T. B. Bullock and Dr. R. T. Allen.

The members of this church have one of the nicest and most up-to-date houses of worship in the State, and are a body of workers who believe in doing things.

Fire destroyed the union passenger station at Apex Monday and the Seaboard Air Line freight warehouse, loss about \$5,000. Origin of fire unknown.

Among North Carolina postmasters confirmed by the Senate Tuesday were Mr. G. H. Russell, Laurinburg, and Mr. A. Elmer Powell, Whiteville.

FARM DEMONSTRATION WORK

It Should Be Continued by All Means —Will Bring About Improved Methods of Cultivation and Fertilization and Farm Management—An Instance of Actual Results That Speaks More Powerfully Than Any Argument—Cost is Slight and a Few Farmers Could Afford to Pay It.

To the Editor of The Robesonian:
Referring to the notice to the chairman of the board of commissioners in the last Robesonian requesting farmers to indicate their wishes in regard to demonstration work in Robeson county, I wish to say that by all means this work should be continued. It may take years to get all the benefits that will result from this work, because our farmers are conservative and like to test new ideas and new methods before adopting them; but improved methods of cultivation and fertilization and farm management, all of which are within the scope of this work, will be adopted by our farmers just as soon as they become satisfied of their practical efficiency and not before.

Last year a tenant on one of my places planted an acre in corn under Mr. Boone's direction. From that acre he got 60 bushels compared with about 30 bushels on the rest of his farm. The demonstration acre had a little over half as much fertilizer as the rest of the farm.

The actual results speak more powerfully than any other argument. Now as to the cost of this work, it is well known that one-half the salary of the demonstrator is paid out of the Peabody fund and not out of the taxes of the people. The only thing that costs the people anything is one-half the salary of the demonstrator, and if a hundred farmers in Robeson could each get such results from an acre as my tenant got, they could well afford to pay the half salary out of their own products. If similar results (and it is results we want) could be generally obtained among the farmers, it would mean not only increased prosperity for them but an increase of taxable property as would vastly overbalance the slight cost of the work.

As a farmer I plead for the expansion and continuance of this work that the whole county shall realize its good effects.
J. A. McALLISTER, Lumberton.

SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

To Drop Farm Demonstration Work Would Be a Long Step Backward.

To the Editor of The Robesonian:
In regard to the matter of continuing the farm demonstration work in Robeson, should like to say that to drop this work would mean a long step backward for the farmers of Robeson county. When this work was first started in Robeson it was looked on by most of the farmers to be a good thing, and has proved to be so. What we need is educated farmers, farmers educated in farming, and this work is one of the best agencies imaginable to educate the farmers in the way they should be educated. When it is well with the farmers it is well with all other classes and we should be willing to do anything to make it well with them. Mr. Boone has proven to be well fitted for the demonstration work, and here I might add it is much better to pay a little more, or even much more, and secure the services of one capable of doing the work efficiently. The best is generally the cheapest, after all. Improvements and advancements in the rural districts mean the same for the towns and cities.

In behalf of the farmers I say let's continue the demonstration work in Robeson, the banner agricultural county in the State, and keep it such.
F. GROVER BRITT, Sec. Treas. Robeson County Farmers' Union.

Land Sale Called Off.

Quite a number from here went this morning to the Wishart place, about four miles from town on the Fairmont road, where it was expected some land, mules and farming implements would be sold at auction. Two mules, two wagons and some farming implements were sold for the high dollar, but the land sale was called off—and the bidding reached \$90.25 per acre at that. The place belonged to Messrs. G. L. Thompson and Ira Ballard of Lumberton. They recently bought the farm from Dr. N. A. Thompson.

R. D. Hunter, a prominent farmer and well connected in Duplin county, took his own life in a Warsaw hotel yesterday by drinking four ounces of poison. He had been in bad health for several years and was despondent over his condition.

Doan's Regulents are recommended by many who say they operate easily, without griping and without bad after effects. 25c at all drug stores.

NEW CAPE FEAR PROJECT.

Godwin Introduces Bill for Entirely New Project for Lower Cape Fear —35-Foot Channel—Million for Upper Cape Fear.

Washington Cor., 27th, Wilmington Star.
Representative Godwin today introduced a bill providing for a survey of the Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington with a view of securing a channel of 35 feet in depth with adequate width and asking for an appropriation of \$115,000 for this and \$1,803,000 for the upper Cape Fear.

Mr. Godwin was before the rivers and harbors committee this morning and received every assurance that ample provision would be made in the forthcoming bill for rivers and harbors for the upper Cape Fear river. It is true that a much larger sum of money will be required to complete the project, but the committee assured Mr. Godwin that the appropriation would be made. He also received assurance that the lower Cape Fear river would be taken care of. The amount estimated by the engineers' report for the fiscal year is \$105,000. That amount will be appropriated and more if necessary.

Representative Godwin's bill launched today an entirely new project for the lower Cape Fear river. The present project of a 26-foot depth has been completed, and he introduced a bill today calling for a survey of the lower Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington, to secure a 35-foot depth of water, with suitable width to take care of the increasing needs of commerce at that port. The survey will no doubt be made and a new project looking to a depth of 35 feet will be taken. Mr. Godwin is enthusiastic over the new project and says that it will make Wilmington one of the leading gateway ports of the South. He says that with 35 feet of water from Wilmington to the sea and with 8 feet from Wilmington to Fayetteville, the year round, North Carolina will become one of the greatest distributing points in that section of the country and will soon take her place among the other great commercial States of the Union.
P. R. A.

—License has been issued for the marriage of D. H. McCall and Emma Pearl Adams.

—Mrs. H. M. McAllister is spending some time at Monroe, where she was called Saturday night on account of the sickness of her mother, Mrs. Francis Ramsay. Mrs. Ramsay's condition is improving.

—An organ recital will be given at Chestnut Street Methodist church Thursday evening of next week. Mr. Blinn Oweq of St. Mary's, Raleigh, will preside at the organ and he will be assisted by local talent.

—The Lumberton Marble & Granite Company is having a large sign painted on the front of the building in which it is located on Third street, also the Robeson Soda Water Company is doing the same thing.

—Mrs. G. Y. Jones returned Monday night from Durham, where last week she attended the annual conference of woman's foreign mission societies of the North Carolina Conference. The conference was in session from Wednesday to Sunday.

—Mr. E. S. Ford of Washington, D. C., spent Monday in Lumberton a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Varner, East Fifth street. Mr. Ford is a cousin of Mrs. Varner. He was on his way home from Pinehurst, where he won a cup at a trap-shoot.

—A certain man and his wife and children came to town last night on a late train, and he failed to find a bed for his wife and children at any of the hotels or boarding houses in town, and went to several private homes before he was able to find a room. Bad advertising for the town. Yes? No?

—Mr. C. W. Sessoms of Smith's bridge is in town today. Mr. Sessoms was here for the purpose of buying books for the children who lost their books in the fire which destroyed the school house at Smith's church Monday night, an account of which is given elsewhere in today's paper.

—Mr. A. E. Spivey, road trustee in Lumberton township, has been handing some little slips to the citizens of the township recently, reading something like this: "You are hereby summoned to meet me at Kingsdale Friday morning, January 30. Bring with you a shovel." There are many who don't like the tone of that; but they should worry.

—"The Web," a Vitagraph special in two reels, showing the power of woman's art and man's susceptibility to her charms, Mr. Courtenay Fote and Miss Rosemary Heby, leading characters, will be shown at the Pastime theatre this evening. The third reel will be "His Undesirable Relatives," by Edison. Tomorrow evening 3 single reels will be offered, "Out of the Storm," Vitagraph, "Daylight Burglar," Biograph, and "The New Sheriff," Essany Western.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—The price of gasoline dropped just one-half cent on the gallon yesterday. And it is high enough at that.

—Roy Holmes and John McLean were tried in the recorder's court Tuesday for hunting on posted land. Judgment was suspended on payment of costs.

—Mr. J. E. Britt, chief of police at Hope Mills, spent Tuesday in town. Mr. Britt was here to see a contractor in regard to building a residence on a lot which he owns in north-east Lumberton.

—Two advance agents of the "Bought and Paid For" Company will arrive here tonight to make arrangements for the coming of this attraction, which will be here Friday night, February 6.

—Mr. J. W. Bullock sold his stock of groceries on Sixth street Monday to Messrs. D. B. Kinlaw and B. Brissson. They will continue to do a grocery business under the firm name of Kinlaw & Brissson.

—Mrs. J. B. Richardson will go next week to Charlotte, where Mr. Richardson will join her in about two weeks and where they will make their home until next fall, when they will move back to Lumberton.

—The Wake Forest glee club will give an entertainment in Lumberton some time in March. The exact date has not yet been learned. All who remember the entertainment given here about three years ago by the club, will be pleased to learn that it is coming.

—At the conference in Durham last week of the woman's missionary societies of the North Carolina Conference Miss Sallie Lou McKinnon of Maxton, was elected corresponding secretary of the home department. Rocky Mount was selected as the next meeting place.

—Mr. N. A. Townsend of Ten Mile passed through town Tuesday afternoon en route to Morganton. Mr. Townsend received a telegram Tuesday morning to the effect that his daughter, Miss Thetus, who is a student at the school for deaf and dumb, at Morganton, was very ill.

—The ladies of Chestnut Street Methodist church are serving dinner in the commissioners' room in the court house each day this week. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the church. By going there to get dinner you not only get plenty good to eat, but help a good cause.

—Mr. F. J. Thomas, local Southern Express Co. agent, has been out on the road this week installing at points on the Raleigh & Charleston Railroad between Lumberton and Marion, S. C., the new reduced rates which the company will put on all over the country the first of next month.

—Messrs. White & Gough will begin Monday putting in a concrete floor in the grocery department of their large department store on Elm street. Mr. M. B. Sutton, the well-known concrete man, who has done most of the concrete work in Lumberton for the last several years, has the contract.

—Mr. H. F. Bissell of Broad Ridge was among the visitors in town Tuesday. Mr. Bissell says that the mumps have broken out in the Broad Ridge school, for which he is mighty sorry, as this has been one of the best sessions in the school's history. Misses Agnes Johnson of Lumberton and Quessie Prevatt of Back Swamp are the teachers.

—While here last week for the purpose of enlisting men for Uncle Sam's army, Mr. Luther C. Holland, of the U. S. recruiting station, Raleigh, enlisted Messrs. Frank Bryant, Ellis Fisher, Oscar Walters and John Edwards, all of Lumberton. The boys left Monday night for Columbus, O., where they will be stationed for some time.

—While returning home from Lumberton Monday afternoon Mr. Rowland Stephens and daughter, Miss Florida, of Orrum were turned out of the buggy in which they were riding. The mule which Mr. Stephens was driving ran off the dam just beyond the river on the Creek road. It looked like a miraculous escape, but no harm was done except Mr. Stephens fell into a deep ditch of water and got a little damp.

—"Mararia," which was to have been the attraction at the opera house last evening, failed to attract. Mr. W. S. Wishart, manager of the opera house, received a letter to the effect that owing to unexpected circumstances the show closed in Wilmington Tuesday evening. Theatre-goers may have missed a whole world of enjoyment by the show not coming—and then again they may not have missed much.