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SIX WHITE MEN SAVED BY NEGROES

Two Negroes by Heroic Efforts Rescued Six White Men From Perilous Positions in Tree Tops in Turbid Waters of Catawba River—Frail Craft Capsized But They Succeeded Where Others Had Failed

How two negroes, Foss Ross and P. H. Stowe, braved the perils of angry waters in the flood-lashed Catawba river Monday in a frail craft and rescued six white men from perilous positions in the tops of trees is graphically told by W. M. Jones in Tuesday's Charlotte Observer. Four of these white men—Resident Engineer Joseph Killian, Section Foreman R. C. Thompson of Belmont, H. C. and Geo. C. Kale of Charlotte—were of the reported 18 who were swept away Sunday afternoon when a derrick crew attempting to save the Southern Railway bridge at Catawba, 11 miles from Charlotte, were swept down stream with a collapse of the middle span of the bridge. The other two men, H. T. Verner, foreman of the Western Union Telegraph Co., and B. M. English, steward apprentice of the Southern Railway, in a steel boat had attempted earlier in the day to rescue the other four but their boat had capsized and they were added to those in the tree-tops with what appeared slim chance of getting back to safety. Various attempts were made to reach the men and bring them to shore, but all proved futile until the two negroes appeared upon the scene. Picking up here the story as told in The Observer:

"As the motor-boat was slowly seeking its weakly way through the eddy water along the island's inland bank, in order to secure a sufficient radius for its contemplated attempt, there came the dramatic climax of a dramatic afternoon, or rather, day. Two men in a boat, coming down the river, announced the crowd's eye in the tree top. As though awaiting but official announcement, there swept into view a batteau, paddled by a pair of husky negro oarsmen. With consistent skill and half-check by four brawny arms, the heavy skiff floated slowly upon the 15-mile current. A quick glance shoreward—500 arms indicating the polar tree, and then without another look up from their husky paddles, the rowers began to cajole and cuddle their craft into the home stretch.

"Swept onward by the resistless force of its water motive power, the batteau showed beneath the branches. A figure arose in the bank and two powerful arms encircled a limb, with an impact which all but lifted the negro clear of the boat. A fraction of a second later, the steerer in the stern had relinquished his raddle for a stranglehold upon the river-rusted canopy of green overhead. Three minutes later, three other figures were soon reposing in the boat as the rowers relinquished their hold and cast off again into the torrent. Five minutes later there was a stampede of those upon the east bank to await the arrival a quarter mile down stream and welcome Thomson, Gurvey and Kale, all more or less weakened and in need of assistance. Ten minutes later the batteau crept silently through the willows and alongside the east bank and the crowd broke into a cheer for the mysterious boatman until the Gaston hills gave back the echo.

"Halting upon the island, Ross and Stowe shook innumerable white hands and receiving plaques in trust some dollars, the results of a hat-passing.

Set Out Once More
 "A drink of water to each and the twin set out again in search of the remaining three, Killian, Verner and English. The hazardous run again was accomplished and the boat was alongside of the tree trunk when there came a sudden flurry and the batteau capsized, throwing Stowe backward into the water. The negro shot out of the water as though impelled by a catapult, seizing the end of the tugline boat and lending his strength to that of a hard pressed companion, with legs locked about the tree and a life and death grip upon the batteau. Then came the figures of the tree, descending rapidly to the aid of Ross and Stowe, still clinging to the completely submerged craft. The gasoline launch, manned by the two Belmont men and Harrah, headed for the struggling group. The prediction as to the engine power was only too true, however, and the launch, bobbing precariously in the fury of the current, passed 50 feet short of the five men—too far for a cast of the rope.

"The pulley method which had failed upon the lighter steel boat, proved the salvation of the quintet in righting the batteau the boat being elevated out of the water by the combined efforts of the five men, over turned and bailed out. The clean get-away, however, which marked the former trip, was missing in the second attempt and for an anxious five moments, the boat, refusing to gain the channel, drifted down through the overhanging branches, every touch of the boughs a promise of certain masterful power of five of the coolest men who ever felt the touch of death a hundred times a minutes.

"Once clear of the branches, a hundred yards down stream, the remainder of the journey was but a question of power and five pairs of arms, double strengthened by hope, provided this medium with a vigor which sent the batteau into the bank as though propelled by an engine.

"Foss Ross and J. P. Stone, black heroes of an eventful day."
Biliousness and Stomach Trouble
 "Two years ago I suffered from frequent attacks of stomach trouble and biliousness," writes Miss Emma Verbrake, Lima, Ohio. "I could eat very little food that agreed with me and I became so dizzy and sick at my stomach at times that I had to take hold of something to keep from falling. Seeing Chamberlain's Tablets advertised I decided to try them. I improved rapidly." Obtainable everywhere.



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TOLL OF FLOOD IN WEST

6 Lives Lost, 60 Residences Washed Away, 400 People Homeless, 1200 Without Employment, Property Loss \$10,000,000—That is Summary of Early Estimate of Result of Flood in and Around Asheville

By the time this gets in print in The Robesonian there no doubt will be other estimates of the result of the flood Sunday in the Asheville section of the state, but the following from an Asheville dispatch of the 17th seems to give a conservative statement and possibly gives results as accurately as they can be known for some days:

Flooded waters of the French Broad and Swannanoa rivers were rapidly receding tonight, but compilation of definite reports received here showed a startling aggregate of damage and suffering in their fertile valleys. As nearly as could be estimated the net results of the flood Sunday were:

Six lives lost.
 Sixty residences washed away.
 Four hundred people homeless.
 Twelve hundred without employment.
 Twenty-five industrial plants partially destroyed.
 Complete tie-up of railroad traffic with one exception.
 Property loss of \$10,000,000.

Workers in cotton mills and lumber plants in Buncombe, Henderson and Madison counties are being cared for here. Nearly \$10,000 was subscribed here for relief work among flood sufferers.

Asheville still was without light and electrical power tonight, the gas and electric plants having been flooded. Milk and ice are scarce here.

On the famous Vanderbilt estate near here and in the village of Biltmore, laid out by the late George W. Vanderbilt, the passing of the floods showed heavy damage. Many houses in Biltmore were swept away and it was here that four lives were lost, while two women tied themselves to a tree yesterday and were rescued today.

Large quantities of hay were washed out at the Vanderbilt estate, 100 acres of corn is reported covered with silt and many of the supplies for the extensive farm operations there will have to be replaced. Mud and logs were swept across portions of the estate and into Biltmore, where Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt joined the rescue forces yesterday and today.

The home of Capt. J. C. Lipe was swept away early Sunday and he was drowned. His two daughters, Mrs. Leo Hultholland and Miss Nellie Lipe, were swept down the valley, but clung to tree-tops and one of them used her sweater with which to tie herself and sister to the branches of a tree. They were taken off when the flood receded today, bruised and almost prostrated, but not seriously injured.

Miss Mabel Foister, Miss Charlotte Walker, nurses at Biltmore hospital, and Miss Marion Walker, elder sister of the nurse, were rescued from the Lipe home early Sunday, but later were drowned when they attempted to return to that vicinity. The bodies of the Walker sisters were recovered today, but that of Miss Foister and Captain Lipe have not yet been found.

The other two lives lost were in the lower section of Asheville, where the Southern railway depot and the Glen Rock hotel were covered several feet deep in water. Walter Trexles and Luther Frazier, the latter a negro, were drowned while trying to take food to guests who were marooned in upper stories of the hotel Sunday. Edward McDowell, aged 11, is missing from this section.

Hendersonville suffered similar damage in flooded houses in the lower sections and in damage to crops and manufacturing plants, but as far as known there no lives have been lost. It was the Henderson dam and the Kanuga dam that burst, causing the floods.

All reports received here say the Toxaway dam is still holding and it is believed the danger is past. It was expected that the French Broad and Swannanoa rivers would be within their banks by Tuesday night or Wednesday. It still is uncertain, however, when railroad traffic can be resumed on any definite schedule.

RURAL CREDITS BILL BECOMES LAW

Signed by President Wilson—Creates 12 Land Banks Under Direction of Federal Board—President Regards it as Long-Due Justice to Agriculturists of Country

Washington Dispatch, July 17.
 The rural credits bill, which creates 12 land loan banks under the direction of a Federal Board, became a law today when President Wilson placed his signature to the measure in the presence of Senators, Representatives and officers of farmers' organizations. When the Nation's Executive had placed his name to the bill those present gave him a generous applause.

Just before signing the measure the President made a short address pointing out the benefits he believed both farmers and investing community would enjoy under its operation.

Feels Satisfaction
 "On occasions of this sort," said the President, "there are so many things to say that one would despair of saying them briefly and adequately, but I can not go through the simple ceremony of signing this bill without expressing the feeling that I have in signing it. It is a feeling of profound satisfaction not only, but of real gratitude that we have completed this piece of legislation which I hope will be immensely beneficial to the farmers of the country."

"The farmers, it seems to me, have occupied hitherto a singular position of disadvantage. They have not had the same freedom to get credit on their real estate that others have had who were in manufacturing and commercial enterprises and while they have sustained our life, they did not in the same degree with some others share in the benefits of that life.

Now on Equality
 "Therefore this bill, along with the very liberal provisions of the Federal reserve act, puts them upon an equality with all others who have genuine assets and makes the great credit of the country available to them. One cannot but feel that this is delayed justice to them and cannot but feel that it is a very gratifying thing to play any part in doing this act of justice. I look forward to the benefits of this bill not with extravagant expectations, but with confident expectation that it will be of very wide-reaching benefits."

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and incidentally it will be of advantage to the investing community, for I can imagine no more satisfactory and solid investments than this system will afford those who have money to use.

"I sign the bill, therefore, with real emotion, and I am very glad indeed to be honored by your presence, and supported by your feelings. I have no doubt in what I have said regarding it."

The President used two pens in signing the bill and gave one of them to Senator Fletcher of Florida, who asked permission to present it to the Southern Commercial Congress.

Secretary McAdoo conferred with the President later on the subject of selection of members of the new board who will be appointed in the near future.

Two Negro Homicides in Cumberland County

The second killing in Cumberland county within 24 hours and the third in the past 2 weeks took place Sunday night or early Monday morning when Will Murphy, colored, was shot and killed, supposedly by Will McAllister, also colored. Murphy was found with a bullet through his head lying in the yard of Bill Breese, a negro known as "greasy", in the northern section of town, known as "Red Bone". McAllister, janitor at a Fayetteville bank, went to work Monday morning but fled when he learned that Murphy was dead.

At Manchester Sunday Gus McLean was shot dead by Will Jackson, following a quarrel which started when McLean snatched a cigarette from Jackson's lips. Both colored. After the killing Jackson went to the home of his father but the old negro is said to have refused to harbor him and the boy gave himself up to the police.

Godwin Comes Home

Washington Cor., July 17, Greensboro News
 Representative Hannibal L. Godwin of the Sixth district, left for Dunn tonight to spend a few days. The House is practically through its work and from now on will mark time until the Senate is ready to adjourn. Mr. Godwin said before taking the train that he is confident that Mr. Carr will be named. He, too, believes the recommendation will be made before the end of this week.

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THOSE THAT HAVE—GET BY WESTON

