

TWO NEGROES TO DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR FOR KILLING CHIEF-OF-POLICE ROGERS

Jury Finds After 52 Minutes Deliberation That Robert Lumpkin and Booker T. Williams Killed Rowland Officer and Judge Daniels Sets April 20th As Execution Date.

WILLIAMS SAYS HE MUST GO FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD

First Degree Verdict Returned in Trial Which Lasted For Four Days—Links of Evidence For Defense Not Strong Enough to Hold—Williams Still Claims He Had Nothing to Do With Shooting—Jury Takes Three Ballots—Four Attorneys Defend Negroes.

JURIST COMPLIMENTS OFFICER AND CITIZENS OF ROWLAND

Between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. is the time, and April 20th next the dates, set yesterday by Judge F. A. Daniels, presiding over Superior court here, for the electrocution of Robert Lumpkin and Booker T. Williams, negroes, who were found guilty of first degree murder by a Robeson county jury Tuesday night.

Williams Denies Guilt.

The condemned men did not seem to realize what was happening to them, although they watched closely while the jury filed in from the room where deliberation lasted only 52 minutes. When the judge pronounced sentence of death upon the negroes, for killing Chief-of-Police Boyd Rogers in Rowland on the night of December 26th last, the negroes did not move from their seats. To Sheriff B. F. McMillan, sitting directly behind the prisoners, Booker T. said, "I sho want dere when the man was shot". Robert, better known as "Slim", said, "I was there all right", but didn't comment further. On the way from the court room to the jail someone asked "Slim" if he cried when the judge pronounced the death sentence. "It wouldn't have done any good if I had cried all day," he replied. When Booker T. was asked about it, he said, "They has put it on us. We's got to go fudder down the road now."

Leave for State Prison.

When the negroes left for Raleigh about 11 o'clock this morning, escorted by Officers Vance McGill and W. C. Britt, Mr. Cultar Moore driving, Booker waved his hat and with a smile on his face said, "So long cap." "Slim" also had a broad smile on his face as he walked out of the jail and neither seemed to care about their ride to the place where their lives will be taken in April. For nearly an hour before they left the condemned men talked with one of the attorneys appearing for them and to the Robesonian reporter.

Say They Told Truth

They contended to the very last they had told the truth, "Slim" said he couldn't understand why they had found him guilty of first degree murder, and Booker T. still claimed he was not on the scene at the time the officer was killed. Both the negroes said they had a fair and impartial trial and said Judge Daniels was a very kind and considerate man.

Three Ballots Cast.

The jury, which was impaneled Friday morning, was given the case Tuesday afternoon at 6:11 and returned with the verdict at 7:03, fifty-two minutes after retiring. Three ballots were necessary for the conviction of first degree murder. The first ballot showed 9 for first degree and 3 for second degree. The second showed 10 for the supreme penalty and 2 for second degree murder. The last ballot was unanimous for the greater penalty. It is understood that one of jurors who did not at first vote for first degree stated that he thought they were guilty but did not like the electric death as a means of death.

The jurors, selected from a special venire, were: S. D. Lamb, farmer, Lumberton R. 4; H. J. Leggett, farmer, Fairmont, R. 2; J. W. Barnes, merchant, Bernesville; H. Marvin Barker, salesman, Lumberton; E. W. Phillips, merchant, Maxton; C. B. Oliver, farmer, Fairmont, R. 2; W. H. Hardin, farmer, Fairmont, R. 2; W. P. Hedgpath, banker, Proctorville; W. M. Oliver, merchant, Marietta; Boyd Davis, farmer, Lumberton, R. 4; J. C. Nye, merchant, Orrum; W. W. Baxley, farmer, St. Paul.

Widow Expected Verdict.

Mrs. Rogers, widow of the slain officer, watched the members of the jury as their verdict was announced. She did not seem surprised at the verdict and told the jury as soon as court was adjourned that she had felt sure they would return a verdict of

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A DECADE AGO

How Time Does Fly.

Cotton 11 1-4 cents the pound; seed 65 cents the bushel. Luther Owen instantly killed when car he was driving ran into car driven by Dr. Roscoe McMillan. Miss Katie Freeman of Bladenboro and Mr. Andrew Freeman of Lumberton married in East Lumberton Baptist parsonage. Miss Loretta Spivey of Lumberton and Mr. A. W. Newkirk of Wilmington married here.

TEN YEARS BEFORE THAT

Cotton, 10 1-2 cents the pound; eggs, 12 1-2 cents the dozen. Mr. R. C. Lawrence improving in Charlotte hospital after serious illness. Small son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Prevatte dies after long illness. Mrs. Susan A. Paul dies at home in Alfordville township at age of 63.

first degree. She was present at every session of court during the lengthy trial, and when the verdict was returned was sitting near the jury box, her sister, Miss Della Mae Smith, sitting on her left, and Mrs. W. W. Ammons of Rowland on her right. Her father-in-law, Mr. D. P. Rogers, sat behind her and heard the verdict announced, which meant the electric chair for the two negroes who had so dastardly taken his son's life. Many Rowland ladies had attended the trial and sat with Mrs. Rogers and sister inside of the court rail.

Poll of Jury

Mr. J. W. Barnes of Bernesville spoke the verdict. Attorney L. J. Britt, counsel for Lumpkin, asked for a poll of the jury as to his client. As each juror answered, "Guilty of murder in the first degree", Mrs. Rogers slightly nodded her head in approval.

"Slim" Smokes

In discharging the jury, Judge Daniels said he realized the painful and serious duty they had performed and that he was not surprised at their verdict. It was only a few minutes until Sheriff McMillan adjourned court, immediately after which "Slim" struck a match and lit a cigarette, and inhaled the smoke as evenly and smoothly as if he were to continue throwing dirt to make the highway between Lumberton and Rowland, where he worked prior to the shooting.

Citizens Complimented.

Before passing judgment Judge Daniels took occasion to compliment the citizens of the community, in which the tragedy occurred for being willing to let the law take its course, and said Rural Policeman J. H. Carper had used good tactics in making the arrest and protecting the community and the lives of the negroes.

Notice of Appeal

Local attorneys D. H. Fuller, J. D. Proctor, and L. J. Britt and J. E. Carpenter of Maxton were assigned by Judge Daniels to defend the negroes, and the judge especially commended these men for their work, pointing to the fact that every possible bit of evidence favoring the defense had been secured and ably presented. Messrs. Fuller and Proctor represented Williams, and Britt and Carpenter the other negro. Immediately after the sentence was pronounced notice of appeal was given.

The fight waged was spectacular. The defendants rarely spoke to their attorneys, and sat almost motionless throughout the entire four days of what Judge Daniels said was "a fair and impartial trial." The defendants had brought on a fight, and their counsel fought with their backs to the wall. Public sentiment was against the negroes, the State had woven a great net of genuine evidence, and as fast as the lawyers for the defense could link a ring of evidence with another, the weakest link would break and the work of trying to save the lives of the defendants had to be started all over again.

Good Legal Talent.

Argument by counsel to the jury started Monday afternoon and was not completed until Tuesday afternoon when Solicitor T. A. McNeill spoke for more than an hour, prosecuting the case admirably. Other attorneys for the prosecution, W. S. Britt, H. E. Stacy and Dickson McLean of Lumberton, and W. E. Lynch of Rowland, employed by Rowland citizens, carried out their part of the fight, and each deserves special credit for effort to see that ends of justice be met. Attorney D. H. Fuller, for the defense, caused some of the best court critics here to compliment him upon his unusually good argu-

Trade us your old car for a Nash six closed model. Cash or time payment. C. M. FULLER & SON Lumberton, N. C.

Fairmont School Girl Injured in Auto Wreck

Miss Ruby McCall Suffered Broken Arm and Others Received Minor Hurts When Car Turned Over—Valentine Party Saturday Night.

By Mrs. H. G. Inman.

Fairmont, Feb. 4.—Miss Ruby McCall, high school student who moved here about a month ago from Parkton, is suffering from a broken arm, misses anaesthetic arm and Irene McArt suffered bruises, cuts and scratches, as the result of an automobile wreck 3 miles from Fair Bluff on the Whiteville road, Tuesday night as they were returning from a basketball game, in white. Misses Martina Floyd, Alice Thompson and Mary McDaniel, Messrs. Damon Floyd and Elliot Chambers were the other occupants of the car, but they escaped without scratches. Miss Rarnam was rendered unconscious from a blow on the top of her head and it was at first thought that the skull was fractured, but upon being brought to Fairmont and examined she was sufficiently able to go to her home in Marietta Wednesday morning. Damon Floyd was driving about 40 miles an hour and as they came to a curve the car skidded, went into a ditch and turned over. Prof. McRaney, coach of the local ball teams, and Mr. Gary Ditchell were in separate cars and were soon at the wrecked car to render assistance in getting the injured to doctors in Fair Bluff and Fairmont. Dr. Hayes set the broken arm and on account of its being broken so near the shoulder had to bandage the arm to her body, and it will be about two months before the bandage can be removed. Ruby is very popular among the younger set and some have been with her practically all day, still these cannot relieve the suffering, nor the fact that she will probably miss the entire spring term of school.

Valentine Party.

The ladies of the Methodist church will have a Valentine party Saturday night, February 6th, at the store formerly occupied by N. W. Jenkins. The public is cordially invited.

Miss Ruby McCall spent the week-end with her grandfather, Mr. Robert Webster, in Dillon.

Mrs. Sam Webster is recovering from what threatened last week to be blood poisoning. Mrs. Webster burned her foot severely several weeks ago and seemed to be healing nicely when it became infected only last week.

The "Flapper Grandmother" will be given in the school auditorium Friday, February 12.

NEW AGRICULTURAL CREDIT CORPN. ELECTS DIRECTORS

Organized for Purpose of Obtaining Loans for Farmers from Agricultural Credit Banks.

At a meeting held in the Planters' building last night Messrs. K. M. Barnes, G. L. Thompson, W. J. Ritter and Jno. S. McNeill of Lumberton, A. R. Bullock and C. P. Grantham of Fairmont and R. H. Livermore of Pates were elected directors of the Robeson Agricultural Credit corporation, chartered last week for the purpose of obtaining loans for farmers from the Federal Agricultural Credit bank. Officers will be elected at a meeting this afternoon.

Fertilizer Demonstration

As stated in an advertisement in Monday's Robesonian, a fertilizer demonstration meeting will be held all day Saturday of this week in the Carlyle warehouse here by Bullard-Lewis & Co.

Two little girls, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Benton, were burned to death in an isolated section of Brunswick county the latter part of last week when the home was burned to the ground. They were left alone in a room and the mother, who was in the kitchen, knew nothing of the fire until the room was a mass of flame.

ment to the jury.

Thus ends, as far as the State of Robeson is concerned, one of the greatest trials in its history, and the general citizenship feels that the ends of justice will have been met on the 21st day of next April.

NOTES.

Before argument to the jury had been completed, one man asked an insurance representative how much premium his company would charge to insure the lives of the defendants. The agent said the company would give a policy for a premium of \$995 the thousand, explaining that the company would be glad to get the use of \$995 for a few months for only \$5.

"Slim" Lumpkin swore that Booker T. fired several pistol shots into the back of the officer's head, and one witness swore he heard "Slim" tell Booker T. that he had shot him ("Slim") one time while he was firing. Booker swore he wasn't there at all.

WANTED ONE HORSE HALF-CROPPER FOR TOBACCO, COTTON AND CORN.—D. D. FRENCH.

MORE OPPOSITION TO BELT HIGHWAY

Delegations From Rowland and Fairmont Ask Road Board to Change Route of County Belt Highway—Want Direct Route Rowland to Fairmont—Road Near Raynham to Be Improved.

DAMAGES NOT ALLOWED

Robeson county's road board in regular session here Monday decided to reconsider the route of the new county belt line highway between Fairmont and Rowland and ordered that members of the board meet in Fairmont Friday morning, February 12, and go over the routes as outlined. A large number of citizens from Fairmont and Rowland and along the routes was present to contest the matter. The original route, which the delegation asked to be changed, is from Rowland to and through a part of what is known as "Cotton Valley", to Gaddy's crossroads, thence to Fairmont. The delegation wanted the highway run direct from Rowland to Fairmont.

Repairs to a road near Raynham were ordered by the superintendent, who had made investigations since the last meeting, when a request for the improvement of the road was made.

No damages were allowed C. A. Lowery for alleged damages to mule. Neither did the board allow damages for lands of Charity Connelly of Lumber Bridge township.

COUNTY BUSINESS

Bonds of 3 Rural Policemen Approved and Ordered Filed—Monthly Reports Accepted—Linnie Walters Employed as Nurse at County Home—Jesse Hummrey Named Registrar of Vital Statistics in Saddle Tree Township.

Bonds in the sum of \$1,000 each for Rural Policemen W. W. Smith, M. N. McRaney and J. H. Carper were approved here Monday by the Robeson county board of commissioners in regular session.

Monthly reports of Miss Elizabeth Frye, county welfare officer, Dr. E. R. Hardin, county physician, and Planters Bank & Trust Co. treasurer, were read and approved. The regular pauper list and routine bills were ordered paid. Anguish Bude, pauper had his monthly allowance increased from \$2 to \$5.

Linnie Walters was employed as county home nurse for the remainder of the year, or at the pleasure of the board. Mr. Jesse Hummrey was appointed registrar for the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Saddle Tree township. A note due the National Bank of Lumberton was ordered renewed for 30 days. Carl Murray was placed on the regular pauper list at \$5 per month.

Recorder's Court

Woman Pays \$50 Fine For Being "Sad" Drunk—Little Attention Paid Recorder's Court Since "Big" Court Convened—Fines For Man Possessing Material For Manufacture of Whiskey and Other Offenses.

It is a sad thing for women to become intoxicated, or at least one woman was sad drunk a few nights ago, according to the record of Recorder P. S. Kornegay, who fined Maggie Hunt, Indian, \$50 and costs for being "sad" drunk.

Very little attention has been paid recorder's court since the convening last week of Robeson Superior court for the trial of criminal cases and the cases disposed of are as follows:

Fred Grooms and Hack McPherson were before the recorder on charges of possessing material for the manufacture of whiskey. McPherson was acquitted and Grooms fined \$50 and costs.

John Sykes and Bruce Brown were each taxed with the costs and required to pay worthless checks.

PHYSICIANS MUST EXAMINE APPLICANTS WITHOUT COST

Legislature Says Duty of Physician to Examine Those Desiring Marriage License.

According to an act of the last legislature, applicants for license to marry must be examined by a reputable physician, whose duty it shall be to examine the applicants without charge. It is understood that some physicians have been making charges from \$2 to \$5 for such examinations, which has caused some applicants to complain about the high cost of getting married. A physician may accept any amount the applicant desires to give, but no charge is to be made. Prior to the last legislature the law stated that the county physician should make the examinations without charge.

AUTO ELECTRICIAN EXPERT MECHANIC

All Automobile Electrical and General Repair Work done promptly. OLIVER BROS. 236 Elm St., Lumberton (former Studebaker place)

Rowland Oil Company Suffers Fire Loss

Fertilizer Plant and Hull and Meal House Destroyed—Social and Personal Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Rowland, Feb. 4.—Messrs. Blue Smith and H. B. Ward spent last Thursday in Laurinburg on business. Miss Harriet Marlow of Laurinburg spent last week-end with relatives.

Mr. Dewey Maness, evangelistic singer, is spending a few days with relatives.

Mrs. Ben McEachern returned Monday from Elkin, where she visited relatives.

Mr. Carl Lennon, who is attending school at Wake Forest, is spending a few days with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Lennon.

Mrs. J. H. McArn entertained the Thursday Afternoon Reok club.

Dr. D. D. Bullock of Charleston, S. C., spent last week-end with relatives. Mrs. Bullock and Douglas Jr. returned with him after spending a week with Mrs. Lizzie McLeod.

Miss Dora Rozier of Fayetteville has been visiting her sister Mrs. Milton Lyth.

Dr. Howard Reedy returned last week from Charlotte, where he visited relatives.

Miss Ruth Hodges, a member of the local school faculty, spent last week-end with relatives in Brownsville.

Mr. J. H. McArn spent a few days of this week in Charlotte on business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lyth of Lumberton were Rowland visitors Thursday.

Miss Rosa Lyth Stacey of Lumberton spent Saturday with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Bullock spent a few hours in Dillon last Wednesday on business.

Mrs. W. E. Lynch visited Mrs. J. M. Lyth of Lumberton a few days last week.

On last Friday at midnight the hull and meal house of the Rowland Oil Co. was completely destroyed by fire. It was a difficult fire to control because of the smoke and fumes from the slowly-burning hulls and was not out until Saturday. The building that was destroyed also housed the fertilizer plant, which was completely destroyed. It is expected that the house will not be rebuilt in time for the fertilizer season.

Mr. Blue Smith spent Wednesday in Charlotte.

MAXTON DRUG FIRM GOES IN BANKRUPTCY

Wilmington, Feb. 3.—Petition of voluntary bankruptcy was filed in the office of H. H. Ford, deputy clerk, U. S. court, here, yesterday by the Barnes Brothers Drug company, of Maxton. The statement of all creditors who are to be paid in full, or to whom priority is secured by law, has a total of \$695,000. A total of \$6,700 of notes is due the Murchison National Bank of Wilmington, the American National of Richmond, People's Bank of Maxton. The schedule of unsecured claims totals \$12,119.48, of whom the principal creditors are: W. J. Johnson Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., \$1,138.93; Scott Drug Co., Cigarotte, N. C., \$2,196.75; United Drug Co., \$1,825.72. Schedule of assets shown \$9,626.52 fixtures, stock, etc. The schedule of open accounts due the firm shows a total of 5,032.24. J. Gilchrist McCormick of Wilmington, is attorney for the petitioner.

Superior Court Term Ends—Civil Cases Continued.

Robeson Superior court which convened here Monday of last week for one week of criminal jurisdiction and one of civil adjourned yesterday afternoon following several motions and submissions in civil issues, and the continuance of all contested civil actions. Judge B. F. Daniels of Goldsboro, who presided, left for his home immediately afterwards.

Services at Court House.

Evangelist Carl Gaddy of Hamlet is conducting services at the court house every evening at 7:30, and there will also be a service at 3 p. m. Sunday.

Cotton Market

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 19 cents the pound.

TEN YEAR FARM LOANS

IN SUMS FROM \$1,000 TO \$100,000 LOWEST COST TO BORROWER PREPAYMENT PRIVILEGES ON ANY INTEREST DATE APPLY TO LEE AND LEE, ATTYS. LUMBERTON, N. C.

Rev. J. E. Lanier Resigns Pastorate at Fairmont

Popular Baptist Pastor and His Wife Will Go to Calypso—Personal.

By Mrs. H. G. Inman.

Fairmont, Feb. 3.—It is with genuine regret that we learn of the resignation of Rev. J. E. Lanier, pastor of the Baptist church, which will take effect April 1st. Mr. Lanier also has a field of churches, including Baltimore, Pleasant Hope, and Bloomingdale and Bernesville, all of which he has resigned to accept a call to the church at Calypso. Mr. and Mrs. Lanier came here three years ago in April, after the church had been without a pastor for six months, and have accomplished much in building up the churches and Sunday schools and have been instrumental in building a parsonage which would be a credit to any town, and it has been

Mrs. Lanier's guiding hand that has helped to build the Fidelis class, the largest Sunday school class in town and among the largest in the county. The sister churches with Fairmont are exceedingly sorry to give the family up but the prayers will follow them in their new work and Calypso will be richer by far by gaining these good people.

Mr. P. W. Smith, father of our townsmen Messrs. P. P. and Wilbur Smith, left Monday in company with Messrs. Clarence Humphrey and Bill Jennings for Miami, Fla. Mr. Smith is visiting a daughter, Mrs. Horne, who formerly lived at Edwin (Duke), but the boys have gone down to make their fortune.

Dr. Edgar Thompson of Winston-Salem spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Thompson.

We are glad to know that Mrs. Magg Jenkins of the Center section and Mr. Joe Bullock of the Baltimore section are improving.

Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Lanier, Messrs. J. F. Johnson, A. B. Hayes and N. W. Jenkins attended in Fayetteville Thursday a district meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union. Fairmont is in the Wilmington district, of which Miss Macy Cox of Magnolia is leader.

Mr. George L. Grantham is receiving congratulations from his friends for having successfully passed the State bar examination. Mr. Grantham will stay in Fairmont for the present but already telegrams have been received from different towns in the State wanting him to look them over. The folks here are hoping he will use his talent right at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hendly moved Monday from Cedar Grove, where they have spent the past two years. Mr. Hendly expects to travel for an automobile concern while his family will reside in North Fairmont.

Mrs. Mollie C. Floyd is spending six weeks in Florida with her nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lewis, in Jacksonville, and will visit friends in Orlando before returning home.

Mr. Paul Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Thompson and who formerly was pharmacist with the Wiggins drug store at Wake Forest, resigned to accept a position as pharmacist with the Grantham drug store in the city.

SPECIAL SERVICE SUNDAY P. M. AT OLD SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Christian Workers of Smith and Zion Hill Community Will Be Guests of Honor at Service With Men's Christian League.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. On Sunday afternoon, February 7th, at 2 o'clock, the Men's Christian League of Lumberton will hold a special service, with the Christian workers of the Smith's and Zion Hill community as guests of honor. All members of the Lumberton league are urged to be present with their hearts lifted to Him who so wonderfully blessed the efforts that were put forth by the league and these Christian friends in the meeting that was held in Smith's church last year. The meeting will be held in the school auditorium, the old building in Lumberton.

The coming of these brethren and their families is understood to mean an expression of their appreciation on their part of the marvelous blessings of salvation from sin which they now enjoy, and which has lifted many men and women of that community to a higher plane of Christian fellowship and made of it a new community. How willing and how thankful we should be for an opportunity to cooperate with those who are willing to strive to promote the spiritual interests of the Kingdom in our community.

Ed Harris, negro, was tried Tuesday at Lexington, Ky., and sentenced to be hanged March 5 for murdering Clarence Bryant, his two children, and wounding and assaulting Mrs. Bryant. About 1,000 guardsmen, the greatest peace-time mobilization of Kentucky State troops in years, guarded him against mob violence. He said he brought it on himself and didn't fight the case. A quarrel over a trade started the trouble with Bryant, he said.

BRUCE PAYS FATHER OF DEAD NEGRO \$1,050.

In Addition to Making Bond For Appearance at Each Term of Criminal Court.

In addition to a suspended judgment of 3 years in the State prison, giving bond for appearance at each term of criminal court here showing good behavior for the next 2 years, Nathan Bruce, white man, who plead guilty to manslaughter in connection with the killing of a negro in an automobile collision, the defendant paid to the father of the dead negro the sum of \$1,050. Solicitor T. A. McNeill states, and there was evidence that the negro, who also was driving a car at the time, was under the influence of whiskey.

MONEY TO LEND

SEE FRANK McNEILL, McLeod Building, LUMBERTON, N. C.

SPRING AND SUMMER SUITS

\$23.50 and up Hand-Tailored To Fit J. D. PURVIS, Tailor

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