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\$1.00 IN THE STATE—\$1.50 OUT OF THE STATE

No Developments In Strange Death Of Oda Childress

Solicitor John R. Jones Is Continuing Investigation Into the Case

SMOOT STILL IN JAIL

Passing Opportunity To Escape Is Seen as Point In His Favor

The strange death of Miss Oda Childress, whose lifeless body was found at the home of her foster-parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tiller, near Benham, December 30, was still shrouded in mystery this morning.

"There have been some new developments, but there is nothing yet for publication," Solicitor John R. Jones told a Journal-Patriot representative. "I believe the mystery will be removed within a few days and just as soon as we are ready to act, every fact known to us will be given to the public," he continued.

Doubt has frequently been expressed that Smoot wrote the note which was found in the pocket of the apron worn by the girl. Solicitor John R. Jones is not convinced of Smoot's innocence, however, and is still holding the reputed sweetheart of the dead girl in the county jail.

Those who hold to the suicide theory say the fact that Smoot did not take advantage of the opportunity to escape from jail yesterday morning is a strong point in his favor.

Solicitor Jones declined to state just what turn his investigations are taking. "We will furnish the public every bit of information possible in the near future," he promised.

McDuffie Out For Solicitor

Local Attorney Expects To Oppose Jones In Primary This Year

Attorney F. J. McDuffie, of this city, is almost certain to oppose Solicitor John R. Jones in the Republican primary for the nomination for solicitor of this district, it was learned this morning.

The local attorney said he was planning to become a candidate, but would not make a formal announcement at this time.

Questioned today, he said he was in the running and that he appreciated the numerous pledges of support which he has received.

Legion Auxiliary To Give Brunswick Stew

A Brunswick stew will be given by the Legion Auxiliary at the Legion-Auxiliary club house Friday evening at 7 o'clock. Members of the Legion and Auxiliary will be the invited guests.

Laura A. Harris Dies At Home At Ferguson

Laura A. Harris, 79, died Thursday at 10 a. m. at her home at Ferguson. Funeral service was conducted Friday at 3 p. m. at Triplett cemetery.

Dorothy Richardson Dies

Dorothy Richardson, 4-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Richardson, of this city, died Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock. The body was taken to Ashe county for burial Friday.

Lions Endorse Birthday Ball

Club Votes To Hold "Ladies' Night" Next Meeting; Splendid Program

The Lions club gave its endorsement to the idea of holding a Roosevelt "Birthday Ball" here on January 30 and pledged its support at the regular dinner meeting of the club Thursday evening at Hotel Wilkes. Dr. H. B. Smith, president of the club, was in charge of the program for the meeting.

The Lions voted to make their next meeting on January 25 "Ladies' Night" and appointed Dr. J. B. Richardson, S. R. Richardson and J. H. Henderson as a committee to arrange the program.

Thursday evening's meeting was featured by some very interesting addresses on national subjects. The speakers and their subjects were: Dr. H. B. Smith, "Pigs"; B. T. Henderson, "The Future of the South"; H. V. Wagner, "The Future of the South"; Dr. J. H. McNeill, "The Future of the South"; and Dr. J. H. McNeill, "The Future of the South."

Roosevelt "Birthday Ball" To Be Staged Here Jan. 30

Decision Is Reached At Meeting Held Friday Morning At City Hall; Committees Are Named To Arrange Details; To Be Held At Local Armory

A Roosevelt "Birthday Ball" to aid in the endowment of the Warm Springs Foundation will be staged in the city on the evening of January 30, birthday of President Roosevelt.

Decision to sponsor the ball was reached Friday morning at a meeting of civic and fraternal leaders at the city hall at the call of Mayor J. A. Rousseau. The vote was unanimous that the city should join in the movement in which more than 5,000 communities all over the nation have manifested great interest.

The Warm Springs Foundation is to be endowed as a national center for the development of methods of treatment of infantile paralysis.

Mayor J. A. Rousseau was made chairman of the committee which will be responsible for putting the ball over. Jimmie Anderson, acting postmaster, was elected treasurer.

The executive committee appointed by Mayor Rousseau follows: Dr. H. B. Smith, R. R. Reins, Mrs. J. C. Reins, Mrs. B. R. Underwood, Mrs. A. W. Horton, Mrs. W. R. Absher and R. G. Finley.

It was decided to hold the ball at the armory of the National Guard here. Prior to January 30, a radio will be installed in the building and guests on that occasion will be given an opportunity to hear

Salesmen View New Chevrolet

Representatives of Hafer Chevrolet Company Are Very Enthusiastic

J. H. Alexander and R. R. Church, salesmen of the Hafer Chevrolet company, local Chevrolet dealers, represented the local firm at a pre-showing of the new 1934 Chevrolet in Charlotte Saturday.

"The new car is everything one could ask for in the way of saleable product," they stated enthusiastically following their return here. "The new Chevrolet will, we feel sure, again prove the most popular car in its price class this year," they continued.

The new car will be placed on display here in the near future. Announcement of the date will be made soon.

Miss Scroggs Is New Case Worker

Is Recommended By Waller Wynn, District Supervisor; Subject To Approval

Miss Clyde Scroggs, of this city, was recommended for case worker for Wilkes county by Waller Wynn, district supervisor of emergency relief and CWA, last week.

The appointment is subject to the approval of the state administrator.

Upon her confirmation, Miss Scroggs will be assigned to assist Miss Lucy Stout and Miss Mary Ella McCredie, who are the present case workers.

Girl Still Sleeps

Chicago, Jan. 10.—Patricia Maguire today had one of her most restless days since she sank into a coma nearly two years ago. It was a restlessness that encouraged her family to continue to hope that the 27-year-old Oak Park girl, a victim of sleeping sickness, may be approaching closer to consciousness.

Willard Taylor In Charge Of Circulation

Mr. Willard Taylor, son of Rev. and Mrs. Seymour Taylor, of Wilkesboro, has been placed in charge of the circulation department of The Journal-Patriot and is now engaged in soliciting subscriptions for the paper.

Mr. Taylor is the authorized representative of the paper and he will appreciate your subscription.

Kiwanis Club Is Back of Project For Scenic Road

Is Anxious For It To Run Along Crest of Blue Ridge Near Here

A. G. HENDREN SPEAKS

The North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club manifested its interest in the scenic highway which will connect the Shenandoah National Park and the Smoky Mountain National Park by passing a resolution endorsing the Sparta, Jefferson, Boone and Lenoir route at its meeting at Hotel Wilkes Friday at noon.

The resolution requested Congressman Lambeth and other state leaders to use their influence to obtain a portion of the scenic highway for this northwest section of the state.

Friday's luncheon meeting was opened by the new president, R. G. Finley, and Genio Cardwell spoke the invocation.

As G. Hendren, county agent for the past 22 years, was presented to the club, and called attention to the excellent work done by the 4-H Club members of Wilkes last year. Mr. Hendren said the 34 members last year made an average corn yield of 84 bushels per acre. He said the highest yield was 96 bushels.

The prizes won by Wilkes club at the state fair and at the International Grain and Hay Show at Chicago were cited as evidence of the splendid progress made by Wilkes club members in the development of their variety of corn. Most of the winning corn was the Wilkes County White variety developed near Purlear.

As a result of Mr. Hendren's address, the Kiwanis Club may offer corn prizes this year. The matter was referred to the agricultural committee for investigation.

J. R. Hix had charge of the program and called upon Rev. Eugene Olive to lead in singing "The Old Oaken Bucket." He then presented Dr. W. A. Jenkins, pastor of North Wilkesboro Methodist church, who spoke of his observations of 12 years of civic club work. Dr. Jenkins praised the civic clubs for their service and for the opportunity they give for fellowship.

Rev. Eugene Olive, permanent program chairman, announced his program list until July 6. The list of program sponsors as announced follows:

January 19, W. E. Jones, 26, C. B. Eller; February 2, J. E. Cassell; 9, J. R. Hix; 16, W. A. Jenkins; 23, Miss Lois Scroggs; March 2, Eugene Olive; 9, C. W. Robinson; 16, D. J. Carter; 30, T. E. Story; April 6, J. R. Finley; 13, J. B. McCoy; 20, W. K. Sturdivant; 27, Genio Cardwell; May 4, E. E. Eller; 11, A. G. Hendren; 18, J. C. Reins; 25, M. G. Butler; June 1, S. V. Tomlinson; 8, A. A. Finley; 15, J. D. Moore; 22, Dr. F. C. Hubbard; 29, P. W. Eshelman; July 6, J. H. Whicker.

Miami Trip Called Off

Washington, Jan. 10.—Unable to obtain an army plane for conveyance, the house military affairs committee today postponed a proposed air trip to Miami, Fla., where it was to study the site for the projected \$11,314,500 army air base at Chapman field.

Asks Vocational Fund

Washington, Jan. 10.—Senator George, Democrat of Georgia, introduced a bill today asking \$3,750,000 for vocational training, to be allotted among the states according to the percentages of farm, rural and non-farm population.

Franklin Circle Will Meet Tomorrow Evening

The Franklin Circle of the Methodist church will meet tomorrow evening at 7:45 at the home of Mrs. Ira D. Payne. All members are requested to attend.

Associational Sunday School Meet To Be Held At Maple Grove Church

An associational Sunday school meeting will be held at Maple Grove Baptist church on January 23, J. A. Gilliam, of Hays, announced this morning.

The general theme of the meeting will be "Sunday School Management."

Following is the program for the meeting, which will begin at 2 p. m.:

Ed Atwood, Escaped Convict, Shot and Killed By Sheriff Somers In Defense of Life

Man Is Slain As He Attempted To Fire On Sheriff

Coroner's Jury Exonerates Sheriff of Blame In Connection With Death

KILLED WITH SHOTGUN

Atwood Had Vowed He Would Never Be Taken Alive, Witnesses Said

Ed Atwood, an escaped convict from state prison at Raleigh, was shot and killed about 9:30 last night by Sheriff W. B. Somers, who shot in defense of his life.

The killing took place near the home of Mrs. Cletus Byers, one and one-half miles north of the Wade Harris Bridge on the Boone Trail Highway, when Atwood ran from the officers who sought to arrest him and turned upon Sheriff Somers with a shotgun. Sheriff Somers fired first and fatally wounded Atwood.

A coroner's jury, assembled by Coroner Stephen A. Rash, heard evidence last night and exonerated Sheriff Somers of all blame in connection with Atwood's death. Their verdict was that the officer did not use unnecessary force and that he shot in defense of his own life.

Solicitor John R. Jones, who went to the scene of the slaying, made a thorough investigation and came to the conclusion that Sheriff Somers had used no unnecessary force.

Atwood was a man of bad reputation and is said to have committed numerous robberies in the county since his escape from state prison after he was sent up from Watauga county to serve from three to five years for housebreaking and larceny. The sheriff received a report yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock that he was in that neighborhood and immediately went in search of him. Sheriff Somers was accompanied by Deputy Sheriff H. O. Kilby and J. H. Alexander.

They surrounded the Byers home, where they understood he was in hiding. Atwood ran from the building and almost into the arms of Deputy Kilby, who commanded him to halt. Deputy Kilby fired into the air without attempting to hit the fleeing man, but Atwood did not stop. Sheriff Somers followed Atwood's movements with the aid of a powerful flashlight. Atwood ran across a branch bridge and turned quickly with his shotgun and only the alertness of Sheriff Somers prevented his death. Sheriff Somers fired, the shot taking effect in Atwood's chest. Atwood fell mortally wounded and died almost instantly.

Atwood was a native of Watauga county, but is said to have been hiding in the edge of Wilkes since his escape from prison.

D. H. Wood and L. A. Wood, who were at the Byers home, and Mrs. Byers testified at the coroner's hearing last night that Atwood had vowed that he would die before he would submit to arrest. They quoted him as having said a number of times that he would be arrested only "when his toes were sticking up."

They said he had come into the Byers home with his shotgun in his hands and had kept it between his knees while sitting in the house.

Earlier in the day, Atwood is said to have drawn his gun on J. W. Greene and threatened to take his life.

The evidence disclosed last night was to the effect that Atwood was a dangerous character. Solicitor Jones stated this morning. The criminal record of the slain man was not immediately available, but it is stated that he has been involved in numerous crimes both before and since he was sentenced in 1928.

At the time he was in state prison, Atwood was known as a rascal and was said to be the most of the class.

He was 57 years old when he was shot. He had been married and had two children.

He was shot in the chest and died almost instantly.

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Bank Of North Wilkesoro Had Excellent Year

Optimism Expressed By J. R. Hix In His Annual Report Thursday

DIRECTORS ELECTED

The Bank of North Wilkesboro had a very successful year. J. R. Hix, president of the bank, reported to stockholders at their annual meeting Thursday morning.

Mr. Hix, in his annual report, stated that some important changes had taken place in the banking structure of the country. Among the important changes, Mr. Hix referred to, is the temporary deposit insurance which guarantees deposits up to \$2,500.

Mr. Hix pointed out the Bank of North Wilkesboro had qualified for membership in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and that the insurance went into effect January 1.

In his report, Mr. Hix said: "The business outlook is considered very encouraging. While all of our manufacturing plants are not on full time basis, they are hopeful of securing business in a short while that will enable them to run the full amount of time prescribed by the various codes. The general outlook is bright and the great majority of our people are gradually assuming a more hopeful attitude toward return of normal conditions."

The bank's finances were shown to be in excellent condition. A substantial profit was made by the bank and the satisfactory business last year when conditions were not so promising gives rise to the hope that 1934 will be one of the best in the history of the bank. Mr. Hix said.

The stockholders elected the following board of directors at the meeting Thursday morning: A. A. Finley, R. G. Finley, E. M. Blackburn, S. V. Tomlinson, Ralph Duncan, John E. Justice, J. R. Hix and R. W. Gwyn.

Because of the absence of several members of the board, the directors' meeting was postponed.

Silo Meetings To Be Held Thursday

Atty And Farnham To Aid In Holding Demonstrations In County

Trench silo demonstration meetings will be held at two places in the county Thursday, County Agent A. G. Hendren announced this morning.

The first demonstration will be at the county home in the morning at 10 o'clock, while the second will be at the C. C. Hayes farm at Purlear at 1:30 p. m.

State Dairy Specialist Atty and F. R. Farnham will assist Mr. Hendren and Assist. County Agent W. N. Wood in giving the demonstrations.

All farmers are invited to attend these meetings which are being held for the purpose of showing an economical way to build trench silos and to point out the economy they offer cattle raisers.

Franklin Circle Will Meet Tomorrow Evening

The Franklin Circle of the Methodist church will meet tomorrow evening at 7:45 at the home of Mrs. Ira D. Payne. All members are requested to attend.

Virginia McDuffie Is Struck By Automobile

Virginia McDuffie, 7-year-old daughter of Attorney and Mrs. F. J. McDuffie, of Wilkesboro, narrowly escaped death last night when she was struck by an automobile driven by Mark Proffitt, of Goshens. She and her father were on their way to church and the little girl stepped almost directly in the path of the car. She was knocked down and received painful bruises on the head and body.

Four Prisoners Get Out of Jail

One Is Recaptured Here By City Police; Smoot Passes Up Chance

Four Wilkes prisoners made their escape from the county jail at Wilkesboro yesterday morning by prying loose the bars from a window on the north-east side of the bastille and lowering themselves to the ground by means of blankets which they tied together as a substitute for a ladder. The break was made about 4 o'clock.

George Ballard was captured by city police early yesterday morning, but the other three are still at large.

The three who have thus far made good their escape are Howard Eller, Clyde Coffey and Clate Church, the latter a federal prisoner. All of them are charged with minor violations of the law.

Five other prisoners, including Andrew Smoot, held in connection with the death of Miss Oda Childress, passed up the opportunity to escape. There were nine prisoners in the room, five of whom made no effort to get away.

Church Leaders To Visit City

Methodist Institute To Be Held At Local Church On Wednesday

About 100 representatives from Methodist churches in the Mt. Airy district are expected to come here Wednesday for the district Kingdom Extension Institute which will be conducted at the North Wilkesboro Methodist church. Rev. A. C. Gibbs, of Mt. Airy, presiding elder, will be in charge.

The first session will be held at 10 a. m. An afternoon session will also be held. The public is invited to attend the institute.

Chicken Thieves Leave Only 3 Roosters to Mr. Phillips

Elkin.—Sparing the owner three slim roosters only, chicken rogues who raided the yard of A. C. Phillips at his farm north of Elkin last night made off with 50 hens. No noise was heard in the fowl quarters although the thieves used a pick from Mr. Phillips' blacksmith shop to force the lock of the gate. Three sizeable men's tracks leading from the poultry quarters indicated the number of men taking part in the thievery. Produce dealers of outside cities are being communicated with by officers.

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Following is the program for the meeting, which will begin at 2 p. m.:

2:00 Song service.
2:15 Reading of the scriptures. Prayer. Special music.
2:25 Ballad and reading from the scriptures.

2:45