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

Tilley's Are Released On Murder Charge

Eldridge Case Nol Prossed

Luther Tilley Joins Kinsmen At Their Home

Defendants Had Been In Jail Since February 2 of This Year

STANLEY ALSO FREED

State Lacking In Evidence To Solve Death of Andrew Eldridge

The state today took a nol pros in Wilke; court in the case of Luther Tilley and Winfield Stanley for the alleged slaying of Andrew Eldridge in 1927 and the defendants are free after six months in jail.

Tilley and Stanley were remanded to jail on February 2 of this year after a preliminary hearing was held in Wilkesboro, at which time evidence was produced tending to show that Tilley and Stanley were responsible for the mysterious death of the Eldridge youth, whose body was found in Klondyke Lake near Elkin nineteen days after he had disappeared from his home and left a note saying, "Notice. I have gone to Elkin to work. Will be back Saturday, Andrew."

At the time the body was found a coroner's hearing was held and death was attributed to drowning.

During the investigation of the famous Tilley case, in which he was gathering evidence against five members of the Tilley family for the death of Leoda Childress on December 30, Solicitor Jones learned that Winfield Stanley had remarked to some of his fellow workmen that Eldridge was not drowned as was found by the inquest, but that "they" hanged him, because he found their still, to frighten him but "they" (mentioning no names) let him hang too long and he was dead.

The evidence alleging that Luther Tilley was connected with the case was offered by a handwriting expert who said Luther Tilley wrote the note supposed to have been left at the Eldridge home by Andrew. In the preliminary hearing the youth's father offered testimony to the effect that when the body was taken from the lake that the neck was swollen.

Nol pros of the case this morning allowed Luther Tilley to join the remainder of his family, who were freed in the Childress case by a directed verdict Saturday afternoon.

Home of Aged Man Is Robbed

Burglars Enter Home of Myers Resident and Carry Away \$50

HAYS, August 13.—Add to the list of the meanest men in the world the man who entered the home of Willis Miles on last Tuesday night and robbed him of \$50.

Mr. Miles, who lives in the Myers community, is a very old man and has been an invalid for the past ten years. The burglar entered the home through a window in the room in which Mr. Miles' granddaughter was sleeping and where the money was kept in a trunk. The young lady was not awakened and the theory has been advanced that she was drugged.

Pine coals were scattered about the floor of the room, indicating that the thief or thieves used a pine torch for a light. (Continued on page eight)

Attend Conference In State Capitol

W. N. Wood, Glenn Williams, W. T. Pugh, Miss Pauline Linney and Miss Rosa Billings motored to Raleigh Saturday to attend a conference of corn-hog campaign administrators.

Revival Is Held At Hunting Creek Church

A series of revival meetings have been in progress at Hunting Creek church during the past week. The pastor, Rev. W. G. Mitchell, has been assisted by Rev. Purvis C. Parks, of Cycle. Much interest has been shown in the meeting.

220 Bushels Of Wheat Harvested On Nine Acres

Glenn Williams, prominent farmer of the Goheen community, harvested 220 bushels of wheat from nine acres, an average of almost 24 1-2 bushels per acre. Similar yields have been reported from various sections of the county, indicating a good wheat yield.

David Mathis Kills Himself With a Rifle

Wilkes Resident Takes Own Life At His Home Near Jonesville

DEATH INVESTIGATED

Clear Case of Suicide, Is Opinion of Coroner S. A. Rash

David Mathis, age 54, ended his life by firing a bullet into his brain at his home near Jonesville Friday evening about six o'clock.

According to the report of Coroner S. A. Rash, who investigated the death and reached the conclusion that Mr. Mathis committed suicide, Mr. Mathis was in the back yard of his home when the shot was fired. Mathis' children playing nearby said they heard the shot and heard their father crumple to the ground.

The children screamed and Mrs. Mathis, who was nearby, rushed to the home to find her husband in a dying condition. A physician was summoned and he left the home after making an examination and finding that Mr. Mathis was beyond mortal aid.

When Mrs. Mathis reached her husband she found a .22-calibre automatic rifle lying beside him. Death occurred about three hours after the shot was fired.

Coroner Rash examined the man's body and his clothes in search of a message or note but did not find anything of that nature.

Mathis was a well-to-do farmer and no cause can be attributed to the rash act unless he became almost suddenly unbalanced mentally. On Thursday he is reported to have told his wife that there was something the matter with his head and that he had difficulty in collecting his mind.

He leaves his wife, Mrs. Dora Mathis three daughters, Louise, Maxine and May, and the following brothers and sisters: Fletcher, Ohio; John, Elkin, Va.; Jones and Joe, Jonesville; James, California; LaFayette, Oklahoma; Mrs. John McBride, Mrs. Landon Mendenhall, and Mrs. Wiel Walker, Ronda.

Funeral services were held at Swan Creek church Sunday at one o'clock.

U. N. C. ALUMNI TO GATHER IN CALDWELL

Former members of the student body of the University of North Carolina residing in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba and Wilkes counties are invited to attend a meeting to be held at Brown Mountain Beach in Caldwell county—ten miles from Lenoir—on Thursday, August 16th. Invitations are also extended to wives of the alumni, and their sweethearts too, if some happen not to be married. Features of the get-together meeting will be a barbecue on the grounds, bathing and an address by Coach Carl Snavely of the University, who will be guest of honor.

The purpose of the convocation is to renew mutual interest among the alumni and to promote the ideals and welfare of the old U. N. C.

White Plains Meeting Will Begin August 19

A revival meeting will begin at White Plains church one half mile north of Roaring River on Sunday, August 19. The pastor, Rev. Purvis C. Parks, will be ably assisted by a corps of ministers. The public has a cordial invitation to attend all services during the meeting.

Brushy Mt. Baptist Association Will Meet August 24-25

Program For Meeting Announced By Moderator and Secretary

AT MORAVIAN FALLS

Rev. Eugene Olive Will Deliver Annual Introductory Sermon

Annual session of the Brushy Mountain Baptist Association will be held at Moravian Falls Baptist church Friday and Saturday, August 24 and 25.

Announcement of the association was made this week by J. L. Hemphill, moderator, and Mrs. Floyd M. Jennings, secretary.

The program for the entire associational meeting, which is given by Baptist leaders among the churches, follows:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24
10:00—Praise and Worship, Rev. H. A. Bullis; 10:15—Enrollment of messengers; 10:30—Report and discussion on Religious Literature, Prof. T. E. Story. (1) Biblical Recorder, (2) Charity and Children, (3) Other Periodicals and Literature; 11—Report and discussion on Mills Home, Rev. Atwell Watts; 11:40—Introductory Sermon, Rev. Eugene Olive; 12:15—Announcements and Adjournment.

Afternoon
1:30—Praise and Worship, Rev. A. B. Hayes; 1:45—The State of the Churches: (1) One Minute Reports from the churches, directed by Rev. Eugene Olive; (2) Preliminary Report on Digest of Letters (Blackboard); 2:45—The Cooperative Program: (1) Report on State Missions, State representative; (2) Report on Home Missions, Attorney A. H. Casey; (3) Report on Foreign Missions; (4) Discussion on each of the above; 3:30—Closing Meditation, Rev. Avery Church.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25
9:30—Praise and Worship, Rev. N. T. Jarvis; 9:45—Report and discussion on Woman's Work, Mrs. Eugene Olive; 10:30—The Cooperative Program (Continued): (1) Report and discussion of Christian Education—30 minutes, Rev. C. C. Holland; (2) Hospital—Report and Discussion 2' minutes, C. B. Mayberry; (3) Aged Ministers' Relief—Report and Discussion 15 minutes, Attorney J. F. Jordan; 11:30—Music; 11:35—Final Report on Digest of Church Letters: (1) Summary of Year's Achievements, Rev. Eugene Olive; (2) Our Goals for Next Year (On Blackboard); 12—Election of Officers for succeeding year; 12:15—Closing Meditation, Rev. Finley Watts.

Afternoon
1:30—Praise and Worship, Rev. Isaac Watts; 1:45—Temperance and Public Morals, report and discussion, Solicitor John R. Jones; 2:15—Sunday Schools—report and discussion; 2:40—Report and Discussion on B. Y. P. U., Mrs. Helen Linney Cashion; 3:00—Reports of Committees—Executive, Finance, Memorials, Resolutions, Place and Preacher, Special Committees; 3:15—Closing Inspirational Address, Rev. Avery Church.

Teachers Meeting Held On Saturday

Teachers Now At Work In Schools Meet With County Superintendent

A teachers meeting for the schools in the county which have already started was held at the Wilkesboro school building Saturday morning at ten o'clock.

Prof. C. B. Eller, county superintendent of schools, presided and led in the discussions of a number of topics relative to school work this year. About twenty-five teachers were in attendance.

Another teachers meeting will be held on August 28, 10 a. m., at the Wilkesboro school building for all teachers who are to begin work on the following day.

Twelve communities in Orange county have prepared data for having rural electrical lines placed for serving the farm homes of each community.

New Rotary President



Detroit . . . Mr. Robert E. L. Hill (above), of Columbia, Mo., is the new president of the Rotary International for 1934. He was elected to the highest office by 10,000 members gathered here from all parts of the world.

"Old Maids' Club Given By Scouts

Wilkesboro Scout Troop Entertains Audience With Splendid Play

Before an appreciative audience the Wilkesboro Boy Scout troop presented a comedy, "The Old Maids Club" at the Wilkesboro school building on Tuesday night. The play, which was ably presented, was directed by Mrs. A. H. Taylor.

The cast of characters was as follows:

Miss Lula Primrose, Mrs. Helen Cashion; Miss Susan Jane Hopewell, Douglas Linney; Miss Mary Jane Hopewell, Albert Garwood; Miss Sallie Brown, William Gray; Miss Dora Doolittle, M. G. Edwards, Jr.; Miss Faith Snowmore, Russell Gray; Miss Julia Jones, Don Story; Miss Mary Smith, James Hemphill; Miss Viola Longfellow, Sam Smoak; Miss Lucretia De Witt, Donald Linney; Miss Martha Weinhauber, Chas. Garwood; Miss Betsey Bobinet, B. S. Call, Jr.; Mr. Tommy Doolittle, Tom Story; Mr. Phillip Andrew James, Baxter Davis.

C. F. Canter Is Badly Injured

Well Known Resident of Purlear Community Suffers Skull Fracture

C. F. Canter, prominent citizen of the Purlear community, was seriously injured on Thursday afternoon when he fell from a moving automobile near the home of T. P. Elledge.

It could not be ascertained whether he stepped from the car before it stopped or fell when he opened the car door. His head hit the pavement of the highway, causing a severe skull fracture.

He was rushed to the hospital here, where his injury received surgical attention. His condition today was reported as somewhat improved.

REVIVAL SERVICES BEGAN LAST NIGHT AT BAPTIST HOME

A series of revival services began last night at Baptist Home church. The pastor, Rev. J. E. Hayes, is being ably assisted by a number of other ministers. The public is cordially invited to all services.

Two Held As Suspected Dillinger Gang Members

Oconto, Wis., Aug. 10.—A man and a woman were arrested here tonight on suspicion that they might be members of the Dillinger gang of outlaws.

It was believed at first that the man was George (Baby Face) Nelson, who has become the country's public enemy number one since the death of John Dillinger.

Officers said later that the man's description did not seem to tally with that of Nelson but that they were checking his fingerprints to make certain.

Unanimous approval of the Bankhead and Kerr crop control acts was expressed by farmers attending the annual Farm and Home Week exercises at State College last week.

Judge Oglesby Allows Motion For Non-Suit As State Rests

City Schools Will Begin Sept. 10

Formal Opening of High School Department On Following Friday

The North Wilkesboro city schools will open on Monday, September 10, according to a statement given out by W. D. Halfacre, superintendent, here today.

Class room work will begin on that date and on the following Wednesday a formal opening program will be held for the elementary schools.

On Friday, September 14, will be the formal opening program of the high school department, program for which will be published in full at a later date.

Lions Have a Business Meet

Another Picnic Meeting Is Planned For Thursday Evening, Aug. 23

Meeting of the North Wilkesboro Lions Club on Thursday evening was taken up mainly by a discussion of business matters and present activities of the club.

The membership and achievement contest now being conducted for the directors' trophy is in full swing and a score of each member's standing is made at each meeting.

The matter of sharing half the cost with the Kiwanis Club for a washing machine for the county tubercular hospital was taken up and it was decided that the club would enter into the project.

It was decided that the next meeting on Thursday evening, August 23, would be a picnic meeting and would be held at J. R. Carter's home on the Brushies.

Wilford Weiler was named chairman of the publicity committee by the president, Ivey Moore.

GOOD REVIVAL HELD AT CENTER CHURCH

A most successful revival meeting was held at Center church in Mulberry township last week. Rev. Monroe Dillard, the pastor, was assisted by Rev. E. A. Long, of Laurel Springs, and a number of other ministers. In a splendid service held Thursday night there were five conversions.

Big Baseball Game Here Tomorrow

Home Chair Company baseball team will play the Chatham Blanketeers at the fairgrounds here tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. This will be the fourth of a series of games played between the two teams this season.

"Chic" Gant who struck out nineteen Blanketeers in a game at Elkin recently will be on the mound for the Home team. The game Gant pitched as well as the other two were won by the Blanketeers by close scores, the game tomorrow afternoon may be expected to be a close and exciting affair.

The public is urged to attend the game tomorrow. Only a small admission is charged, and the local club needs financial support, the management states.

MANY ARE HOMELESS IN KENTUCKY FLOOD

Ashland, Ky., Aug. 10.—The muddy tide of a cloudburst swept away all the worldly possessions of hundreds of people, took two lives, and laid waste the fertile lowlands of Carter and Rowan counties today. It was the most devastating flood ever recorded in this section of eastern Kentucky. Property damage will be counted in hundreds of thousands of dollars.

T. S. Neal, of Ruffin, Caswell county, reports a production of 811 bushels of wheat this season on his former all-tobacco farm.

Sensational Case Comes To Dramatic End When Judge Says Evidence Does Not Warrant Going Before the Jury

State Examines About 100 Witnesses In Effort To Convict Tilley Family; Judge Commends Solicitor For Diligence and Discharges Yadkin County Jury

Five Tilley's indicted for the murder of Leoda Childress were freed of the charge in Wilkes superior court late Saturday afternoon when Judge John M. Oglesby promptly granted a defense motion for non-suit or directed verdict of not guilty.

The action of the court sets free four of the five defendants, W. W. Tilley and his wife, Mrs. Della Tilley, Mrs. Luther Tilley and Clyde Tilley. Luther Tilley was freed today on a first degree murder charge in connection with the death of Andrew Eldridge in the Benham community in 1927.

Failure on the part of the state to produce sufficient evidence for the case to go before the Yadkin county jury leaves the death of Leoda Childress, 18, as much a mystery as it was on the bleak afternoon of December 30, when her lifeless body was found in the Tilley home by neighbors, Nath Sharpe and Kelley Brown, who testified that they answered a distress call over the party line telephone, presumably from the Tilley home.

Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday were consumed by examination of about 75 state witnesses and at 4:40 o'clock Saturday afternoon Solicitor John R. Jones, leading the prosecution, announced to the court that the state had finished its case.

Attorney J. Hayden Burke, for the defense, made a motion for non-suit on the charge of conspiracy and the charge of murder contained in the bill of indictment. Before he had completed his argument, Judge Oglesby interrupted an allowed both motions, but not until Solicitor Jones had argued against the motion, citing some of the highlights of the evidence.

Judge Oglesby commended Solicitor Jones for his diligence in the case, but asserted that the evidence had not shown a conspiracy, that none of the defendants had been placed closer to the scene of the crime than 150 yards, that three of them were admitted to have been about eight miles from the home at noon, the hour designated by the state as being the time the girl was killed, and that there was not evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendants, or any of them, were guilty.

C. L. Comer Is Member Of Cotton Reduction Group

All Who Want To Sign Reduction Contracts In Wilkes Should See Him

C. L. Comer, of Union Grove, is a member of the cotton reduction campaign committee for Wilkes and Yadkin counties.

All who wish to sign the cotton reduction contracts should get in touch with the county agent, A. G. Hendren, or Mr. Comer, who have the necessary blanks and can give all the desired information.

Kiwanians To Hear Oglesby

Superior Court Jurist Will Address Club In Friday Noon Meeting

Judge John M. Oglesby, presiding over the present term of superior court in Wilkesboro, will address the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club at its noon luncheon, D. J. Carter will have charge of the program.

A full attendance of Kiwanians is expected to hear the address.

Seven Are Killed As Train Hits Automobile

Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 9.—Seven persons, four of them children, were killed today when a passenger train crashed into a heavily loaded automobile driven by a one-armed man.

Survey Parties Expected To Begin Work Next Week

Raleigh, Aug. 10.—Survey parties on the park-to-park federal scenic highway are expected to start work in the Low Gap section near Mount Airy next week, Chairman E. B. Jeffress of the highway and public works commission said today.

Conferences between commission officials and engineers and representatives of the federal bureau of public roads have been held here this week in regard to methods to be used in acquiring rights-of-way and other details. Mr. Jeffress said, and unless there is a hitch—first survey crews will start work next week.

The entire proceedings from the time the state rested the case until Judge Oglesby thanked and discharged the jury and adjourned court until this morning, lasted only about 10 minutes.

Thus a case that has attracted the attention of the nation came to a dramatic end.

The state's chain of circumstantial evidence with which Solicitor Jones fought for a conviction contained the following highlights:

Nath Tharpe and Kelly Brown heard a voice over the telephone, presumably from Leoda, saying that some drunk men were mistreating her and wanting some one to come and help her; they found her dead and a .22-calibre rifle on the floor; near the home they saw Luther Tilley running across a field; two days later Mrs. W. W. Tilley pulled a note from the pocket of the apron the girl was wearing when she was killed.

The note said robbers were there and had given her twenty minutes to get \$500 of Mr. Tilley's money and that she would die before telling them where it was; in the note she said she had hidden the money in the tobacco cellar, where it was found by searchers after the note was taken from the apron pocket. Jealousy between Luther's wife and the girl was advanced as a motive for the crime; handwriting experts said the note found in the apron was in the handwriting of Mrs. Luther Tilley.

What the defense would have tried to prove had the case continued could be ascertained only by the line of cross examination, which tended to show that they did not even admit the murder and that she may have committed suicide. The defense would probably have attempted to prove alibis for each of the defendants.

Tharpe First Witness

Tharpe was the first witness for the state and Brown, who followed him to the stand, corroborated his testimony in detail. The former was on the stand for four hours.

Tharpe related the story of having heard a jingling ring over the party line telephone in his home. His ring, he said, was three long rings and two short ones. The ring he heard was three longs in an intermittent manner and he went to answer, thinking that someone might be calling his home. At the time he

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