

## SUSPECT HELD IN BAKER MURDER MYSTERY

### WILKES FARMER VIEWS HIS SOIL WORK FROM THE AIR



J. Bidwell Williams, left, President of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, F. E. Jones, Chamber manager, right, and Woodruff Wallace, are shown talking to L. C. Lowe of State Road, second from left, the first Wilkes County farmer to accept the Wilkes Chamber's offer to fly over his farm to check his soil conservation work. Over 100 Wilkes County farmers are to receive invitations from the Agriculture Committee of the Wilkes Chamber to make an airplane trip over their farms in the interest of better and more intensive soil conservation and erosion control work in Wilkes County.

## Wilkes Farmers May View Soil Conservation From Air

### Wilkes Chamber Commerce Begins Important Work

#### Local Airfield Cooperating With Chamber to Launch Conservation Work

E. G. Finley, chairman of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee, announced today that the chamber had started action on a special program designed to show Wilkes county farmers the benefits and values of soil conservation work. This program as planned by the Agriculture Committee consisting of: E. G. Finley, W. K. Sturdivant, W. D. Jester, W. H. H. Waugh, Tam Hutchinson, R. D. Smith, John Leshon, and B. B. Broome, makes it possible for Wilkes county farmers who have been doing soil conservation work to take an airplane trip over their farms to see what good their soil conservation work has done, and to see what other work could be done on their fields and on their neighbors' farms.

Mr. R. E. Dunn of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service has been working very closely with the chamber of commerce committee in selecting the farmers to be invited and in meeting them at the airport to discuss what they should look for while they are in the air. It is anticipated that more than 200 Wilkes county farmers from all sections of the county will receive invitations to make this soil conservation trip.

The Wilkes Chamber has received a special rate from the managers of the North Wilkesboro airport in order that this project might be successful. The first Wilkes farmer to take advantage of this offer was L. C. Lowe of State Road, North Carolina. Upon his return to the airport Mr. Lowe stated, "I did not realize before how much my little amount of soil conservation work could do for my farm. You certainly can see the results when you check it from the air, and see a farm that has had some soil conservation work done compared with others which have not bothered with it. I hope that every farmer in Wilkes county will put a lot of his time on soil conservation work. It will certainly pay him big dividends."

### Julian Price Victim Of Accident Near North Wilkesboro

Julian Price, of Greensboro, 78-year-old chairman of the board of Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company and philanthropist, was instantly killed at 3 p. m. Friday when his sedan, traveling west from Greensboro toward Blowing Rock, ran off the highway at a slight curve 13 miles east of North Wilkesboro. His death occurred on the eve of the third anniversary of the death of his wife.

Three other occupants of the automobile, E. D. Broadhurst, 68, Greensboro attorney, R. R. Harrill, 49, insurance agent of Elizabethton, Tenn., and Price's chauffeur, Walter Poole, 48, negro, Route 2, Greensboro, suffered injuries not considered serious.

Highway Patrolman Sidney M. Carter, who investigated the accident, said his investigation indicated the accident may have resulted from some mechanical defect which caused the automobile to fall to make the turn. The vehicle, he said, left the right side of Highway 421, traveled 40 yards and struck an embankment about five feet high, traveled on 40 more yards and came to a complete stop on the edge of the highway. Carter said the car stopped "right-side up" but the front end and left side of the car were badly damaged, indicating it had turned over on its side.

### Car and Driver Held In Ohio For Local Officers

#### Francis Baker Robbed And Killed 15 Miles West Of This City Saturday

LATE NEWS FLASH! Report reached here today that a car answering the description of the one driven by Francis Baker, who was murdered Saturday night, had been located in Ohio and that the driver was being held for arrival of local officers, who left for Ohio today.

Francis Baker, 26, local taxi driver, was robbed and killed Saturday night near highway 421, 15 miles west of this city. Sheriff C. G. Poindexter, Highway Patrol Sgt. A. H. Clark and Coroner I. M. Myers investigated the death and stated this afternoon that mystery still surrounds the murder and robbery. Baker's body was found at nine a. m. Sunday by P. W. Witherspoon, colored sawmill worker. He had been killed by two shotgun charges, one entering his chest at close range and the other in his right hip, apparently from a distance of several feet. The body had been dragged several steps from the road into some undergrowth near a sawmill.

Mr. Baker had been driving a taxi for J. C. Davis, of this city, for the past two years. The money pouch and pocketbook had been taken from his body. Mr. Davis stated here that he presumed that Baker had on his person about \$200 of taxi receipts in addition to whatever money of his own he was carrying. The 1933 Chevrolet car which Baker was driving has not been located today. It was described as a black, four-door sedan with one fog lamp on left, a spot light on left and the chrome side strip had been torn off in a wreck. Officers expressed the opinion that the murderer fled in the stolen taxi.

Inquiry here revealed that associates of Baker could not recall having seen him in North Wilkesboro since six p. m. Saturday evening. Mr. Davis said that Baker had been a most reliable and efficient driver.

Coroner Myers said that condition of Baker's body Sunday morning indicated that he had been dead several hours.

Surviving Mr. Baker are his wife, Mrs. Ruth Holman Baker, and three children, Kent, Bryant and Larry, of this city; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Baker, of the Maple Springs community of Wilkes county; one brother, Alvin Baker; and six sisters, Mrs. Grace Triplett, Mrs. Zora Green, Mrs. Pansy Atkins, Mrs. Coletta Church, Virginia and Christine Baker.

Funeral service will be held Tuesday, two p. m., at Lewis Fork Baptist church. Rev. A. W. Eller will conduct the last rites.

### Fire Alarm Tuesday Is Fully Explained

A misunderstanding caused the fire alarm here on Tuesday when the fire trucks and firemen went to Tenth street in response to a call from a policeman for assistance in arresting two men charged with being drunk.

Sgt. W. C. Bentley, of the police department, was having some trouble making an arrest. Meanwhile, Carlyle Staley, policeman, was nearby and put in a call to the police department for someone to drive the police car to Tenth street. The call was put in to the police department, and the officer taking the call relayed the request downstairs for someone to "take the car to Tenth street." The statement was misunderstood as "fire on Tenth" street and the alarm was turned in. Both fire trucks and the police car went to the scene of the trouble.

held under \$2,500 bond pending completion of the investigation, the patrolman said. He suffered cuts on his chin and left leg. The four left Greensboro about noon Friday to drive to Blowing Rock, where Price and Broadhurst planned to spend the weekend and where Price was to inspect the progress of work he had started in construction of a dam to form a large artificial lake.

### OFFICIALS OF NORTH WILKESBORO P.-T. ASSOCIATION



Shown here are officers of the newly organized North Wilkesboro Parent-Teacher association in an informal session as they were studying and discussing the Parent-Teacher Bulletin. Left to right are: Mrs. C. Arthur Venable, president; Mrs. David E. Browning, first vice president; Mrs. Stator Melver, second vice president; Mrs. Lewis Vickery, secretary; Mrs. Jack Swafford, treasurer; Mrs. Paul Cashion, historian. Mrs. Gilbert Foster, corresponding secretary, was absent at the time the picture was made. The P.-T. A. is getting off to a good start. (Photo by Harvel).

### BUSINESS EXECUTIVE VISITS NORTH WILKESBORO BY AIR



North Wilkesboro business house executives use a Beechcraft Executive airplane to visit stores. Officials of the Dixie Home Stores visited Wilkes County last week in their two-engine, seven-passenger plane include R. C. Rigdon, Assistant to the Vice President in charge of outside operations; C. E. Davis, supervisor; Jean Brannon, Sr., Pilot; and Jean Brannon, Jr., Co-pilot. They are being welcomed in the photo above by the President of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, J. B. Williams, and Wood Wallace, manager of the local airport. Left to right, Jean Brannon, Jr., Brannon, Sr., Mr. Rigdon, Mr. Williams, Mr. Davis and Wood Wallace.

### MOUNTAIN LIONS TIE POWERFUL ELKIN TEAM 19-19 HERE FRIDAY

North Wilkesboro's Mountain Lions came from behind here Friday to tie a powerful Elkin eleven 19-19 in the most thrilling football game of the season. Elkin's Elks, favored to win by a touchdown of more, got off to a flying start by making two first downs in the early minutes of play and Lawrence got away for 40 yards to the five, where Sam Adams ran the ball over. A beautiful placement, made it 7-0. But North Wilkesboro came back rapidly on a thrilling run by Harold Sturdivant, first half back and triple threat star of the Mountain Lions' backfield. He took the ball near midfield, sprang through a hole over his own left tackle, eluded the entire Elkin backfield and raced all the way to score. The try for extra points failed and Elkin led 7-0. Elkin received and after three plays had to kick. Two plays later North Wilkesboro got the

ball Sturdivant again showed that he was one of the best ball carriers ever to roam over the local turf when he raced around his own left end for 65 yards and another score. After some blocking had enabled him to get by the line of scrimmage he outmaneuvered the safety man and outdistanced everybody who had any intentions of stopping him. The try for point failed, and North Wilkesboro led 13-7. A punt that did off the side of Sturdivant's toe gave Elkin the break which accounted for their second touchdown. After a few ground plays B. Rattledge caught a pass and ran 13 yards to score. Try for point was wide, but Elkin led 13-11. In the waning minutes of the first half Sturdivant intercepted an Elkin aerial and the North Wilkesboro team drove to the one-yard line as the half ended. See — LIONS — Page 8.

### Morton Speaker For Republican Rally On Friday

#### Former District Attorney Will Address Voters At The Courthouse List

Robert Morton, of Albemarle, former United States district attorney and widely recognized as an outstanding Republican leader in the state, will speak at a Republican rally to be held at the Wilkes courthouse on Friday night, November 3, 7:30 o'clock. This will be one of the major events in the Republican campaign and it is expected that a large crowd will attend.

### WILKESBORO RAMBLERS LOSE IN GAME WITH GRANITE FALLS 9 TO 0

A Wilkesboro Rambler high school football eleven, yet feeling the results of injuries, lost a hard-fought game to Granite Falls high at Granite Falls Thursday afternoon. It was the first home game for Granite Falls, and Coach Deal had his players at top-pitch for the contest.

Granite Falls kicked to Wilkesboro for the opening play of the game, and for the first part of the quarter, the Ramblers took possession of the football game by driving to Granite Falls one-foot line, the ball being carried to this point following a splendid pass play to Jay Parker and Grove making a fine gain through the line. On fourth down, with only about a foot to go for touchdown, a Wilkesboro player tackled Grove. Then came back for their lone touchdown of the game. A long pass from Gaston to Splawn was completed, with Splawn standing in his end zone. Hayes carried the ball over in a scrimmage play for the extra point, and Granite Falls was in the lead 7 to 0 at the end of the half. The second half was a see-saw affair, with both teams going to the air for most of the plays. Neither team was able to make its passing or running attack click in the third and fourth quarters, although Granite Falls pushed the Ramblers deep into their own territory. On an attempted pass play, a Wilkesboro player was downed behind the goal line for an extra two yards, making the score: Granite Falls 9, Wilkesboro 0. The Wilkesboro team lost the game. See — LIONS — Page 8.