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SIGNED ADMISSIONS LITTERAL AND BELL INTRODUCED IN TRIAL

Liberal Gifts Are Asked For Polio Fund In County

An appeal to the community to make liberal contributions to the 1947 March of Dimes annual fund-raising drive of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—so the \$24,000,000 national goal will be met, was made today by Larry Moore, chairman of the local campaign committee here.

Mr. Moore pledged the local committee to redoubled efforts following receipt of a letter from Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation, stressing the crucial importance of the 1947 March of Dimes. The need to replenish funds drained in fighting last summer's epidemic which affected more than 25,000 persons and was the worst in the Foundation's history is more urgent than ever before, according to Mr. O'Connor.

To assure continuing care of patients and build up adequate chapter reserves for future epidemics, \$12,000,000 is needed, Mr. O'Connor said. The other half of the \$24,000,000 minimum is required on the national level as follows:

Epidemic aid reserve fund \$5,000,000
Research and education fund \$5,000,000
General Working Fund \$2,000,000

"During the 1946 epidemic," Mr. Moore said, "the \$4,000,000 epidemic reserve fund of the National Foundation, previously considered adequate, was wiped out completely by November in aiding chapters. By the end of the year approximately an additional \$1,500,000 earmarked for research had to be diverted for emergency aid to fulfill the pledge that 'no one stricken by polio need go without care for lack of funds.'"

Pointing out that this community as every other in the nation must be adequately prepared for any emergency the future may bring, Mr. Moore concluded: "Let us double our contributions now so we can be prepared. We cannot gamble with the safety of our children. By giving generously now we will avoid future self-reproach that we gave too little and too late when next summer's epidemics strike."

S. R. Williams, 47, Died Wednesday

Solomon Randolph Williams, 47, well known citizen of the Fairplains community near this city, died at his home Wednesday following a brief illness.

Mr. Williams, who had been employed as a taxi driver here, is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mollie Williams, and the following sons and daughters: Ray H. Williams, in the marine corps; James F. Williams, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Dyer, Tacoma, Wash.; Solomon Williams, Hinkley, Calif.; Nannie E., Annie Mae, Peter L. and Dina Lou Williams, of the home.

No date has been set for the funeral, which will be held at Fishing Creek church.

Weekly Inspection Tours Of Manufacturing Plants Here Planned By Fire Department

The North Wilkesboro Fire Department will meet tonight for the first weekly inspection tours of manufacturing plants in this area. These fire department tours are being sponsored by the Industrial Committee of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce under the chairmanship of J. R. Hix. Arrangements are being made so that the fireman will visit a different establishment each week.

Fire Chief Thurman Kenerly in commenting about this new project, said "The firemen feel that the Industrial Committee of the Chamber is taking a fine fire protection step in starting this activity. I hope that every manufacturer will assist us. We can do a much better job of fighting fires in any plant if our men are familiar with the general layout of that plant."

The American Furniture Company will be visited tonight and

Wilkes Residents Ask Legislation On Road

Raleigh.—Wilkes County residents petitioned northwest representatives yesterday for legislation to force improvement of 24-mile road in Edwards Township.

The road is so bad in Winter that the mail carrier cannot make trips over it for weeks at a time, according to the petition, signed by 117 persons.

The stretch of country road runs from Tucker Road to Little Mountain, serving 137 people and 35 homes, they said. It is used as a school bus, mail, and mill road.

Legislators intended to take the matter up with highway officials. They thought the requested improvements might be obtained without introduction of special legislation.

Mrs. Ruby Holder Claimed By Death

Funeral service was held Wednesday at Hinshaw Street Baptist church in this city for Mrs. Ruby Stone Holder, of this city.

Mrs. Holder died Tuesday at Davis Hospital in Statesville. She is survived by her husband; one child, Anna Mae Holder; her mother, and two sisters, Mrs. Leola Anderson and Mrs. Lester Queen, of this city.

H. T. Moore, 77, Rites On Sunday

Funeral service was held Sunday at New Hope church near Gilreath for Humphrey Thomas Moore, age 77, citizen of that community who died Saturday. Rev. Pervis C. Parks and Rev. J. P. Robinson conducted the last rites.

Surviving Mr. Moore are his wife, Mrs. Mary M. Moore, three sons and a daughter: James W. and Lonnie Moore, of Gilreath; Mrs. Bertha Tedder, of Campbellville, Ky., and Rom L. Moore, of Oakwoods.

Mrs. J. T. Morton Dies In Virginia

Mrs. J. T. Morton, 90, mother of Hugh H. Morton and Mrs. Irene Meade, of this city, died Sunday morning at her home near Keysville, Va.

Mrs. Morton is survived by nine children, 43 grandchildren and 64 great-grandchildren.

Those from here attending the funeral service Monday afternoon at Briary church near Keysville where Mr. and Mrs. Hugh H. Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morton, Mrs. Irene Meade, Matthew H. and Robert Meade.

Mrs. Huldia Byrd Claimed By Death

Funeral service will be held Friday, 11 a. m., at Rachel Church for Mrs. Huldia Byrd, 72, who died Wednesday night at her home in Edwards township. Rev. Grant Cothren and Rev. Gordon Pruitt will conduct the service.

Mrs. Byrd is survived by one son, Dewey Byrd, of Roaring River.

TESTIMONY OF GIRL IS HEARD ON WEDNESDAY

Peggy Shore Tells Story Of Bestial Treatment By Litteral and Bell After She Had Been Kidnaped By Them

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Wilkes court today read to the jury purported and signed confessions, of Ralph Vernon Litteral and Marvin Claude Bell, who are now on trial charged with rape of Peggy Ruth Shore, pretty 15-year-old Elkin girl, on August 23.

John G. Johnson, FBI agent, read the alleged statements of both Litteral and Bell.

The statement which Johnson said Litteral signed on August 30 contained Litteral's admission that he and Bell followed the bus out of Elkin and grabbed Peggy Shore after she had left the bus. He said that Bell was driving while he threw the girl into the car, that they proceeded to North Wilkesboro and stopped just west of the town, where Bell and the girl got out of the car and waited for him to get gasoline.

Litteral's statement said that he tried twice but failed to assault the girl but that Bell did twice. He admitted slapping the girl and striking her a number of times.

FBI Agent Johnson also read a statement which he said Bell signed on September 3. This statement contained nearly the same preliminary statements as that of Litteral. He admitted sexual acts with the girl twice over her protests and said that Litteral tried a number of times and that Litteral threatened to cut the girl with a knife and that in Tennessee Litteral wanted to kill the girl and he objected and told Litteral that he would have to kill him first. The remainder of his statement contained various sordid details and his account of the return trip from near Bristol, Tenn.

It was evident today that trial of the two men on the capital charge will consume the remainder of the week. Every seat in the courtroom has been filled and Judge H. Hoyle Sink, of Greensboro, had demanded and kept strict order in the courtroom. Only those who can be seated are admitted to the trial. Interest in the trial has been exceedingly high.

The trial was highlighted by the testimony of Peggy Shore, the alleged assault victim, on Wednesday morning. As she related her account of what happened to her the crowd was very quiet to catch every word and tears were clearly visible in the eyes of many court spectators, especially when she collapsed on the stand.

Today, followed the testimony containing the admissions of the defendants, she fainted and was again carried from the courtroom.

Wednesday Session
Peggy Shore began her testimony under direct examination by Solicitor Avalon Hall. She said she was 16 years of age on October 20, was in the tenth grade at Ronda high school and was a daughter of John W. and Mozelle Tucker Shore.

On the night of August 23, she said, in company with a number of other boys and girls she attended a watermelon feast at the home of Grady Harris in Elkin. After the watermelon feast she and two neighbor girls, Jo Anne Johnson and Patsy Ruth Myers, missed the 9:30 bus home and went to a movie at 11:05 p. m. they got on the bus to go home, and while on the way they noticed a car following the bus, and that the car did not have lights. The other two girls got off the bus and Peggy went to the end of the bus line, which was 100 yards from her home.

Thrown Into Car
She said the bus turned around, she got off and started walking toward her home. The same car she had seen following the bus drove up with two men in it. One stepped out of the car as it stopped and the other man told him to grab her. She said she screamed and started up the bank of the road toward a neighbor's house when the man, whom she later called Litteral,

grabbed her, threw her into the back seat, got on top of her on the floor of the car with her face down. At that time she exhibited an elbow scar which she said came from an injury received then.

Blindfolded
While holding her down the man blindfolded her and the car was driven off by the man she later called Bell. After traveling several minutes the car was stopped and the men had liquor, which they tried to make her drink but did not succeed. Meanwhile, she said she was fighting and kicking and resisting in every way possible.

Threatened With Death
The car was driven again for a number of minutes and stopped. The men took her out of the car into a grassy place and placed her against a tree. Litteral, she said, drove the car off and Bell held her by sitting on her legs and holding her hands. At that time, she said, Bell threatened her with rape and death. Litteral came back with the car, saying that he had got gasoline and liquor, and she was placed in the back seat with Bell.

The First Assault
Tears stained Peggy's face as she brokenly related how Litteral held her, how she was beaten and how Bell committed the act of rape.

After the car started, she said they apparently passed through a town. She was blindfolded all the time, but said that some lights from what she thought were street lamps got through the cloth over her eyes.

Attack By Litteral
After several minutes the car stopped and Litteral got into the back seat with her while Bell drove. She said that Litteral tried to rape her but did not fully succeed. He said he threatened her, beat her and twisted her arm painfully. She said that he placed his hand on her neck, choked her and forced her head down to carry out a crime against nature. She said: "It was awful; I became sick."

At that point in her testimony Peggy began crying and her mother went to her side on the stand and remained there at the suggestion of Judge Sink.

The Third Attack
Resuming her testimony, Peggy said that both men forcibly put her into the front seat of the car between them and that Bell told her he had a notion to shoot Litteral's brains out for forcing her into the crime against nature act. Then Litteral got something out of the glove pocket of the car which she said she thought was a gun and that the two men quarreled. They quit quarrelling and she was again placed in the back seat with Bell, whom she said raped her the second time as she was very weak and dizzy.

Disagree On Murder
Later the car was stopped, she was left in the front seat under threat of being shot if she screamed or made any movement to escape. The men went to the back of the car, where she heard Litteral say: "Let's kill her and get it over with," to which she said Bell objected by saying that he had agreed to raping the girl but that there would be no murder.

Slash On Thigh
Peggy said the men put her in the back seat with Litteral and that she fought as much as her failing strength permitted. She then said that Litteral said he would cut his initials on her leg and that if he could not do what he wanted to be would cut her so he could. He then used a pocket knife, she said, to slash a 12-inch cut on her left thigh.

Later she showed the scar before the jury.

Relating her account of what took place, she said Litteral completed the act of rape.

Peggy Near Collapse
"It was awful," Peggy sobbed as she burst into tears and screamed on the witness stand.

As she was about to collapse a highway patrolman picked her up from the witness chair and carried her out of the courtroom to physicians nearby. After she was again composed, she returned to the stand to resume her story, which was told with remarkable coherence and clarity throughout.

She was put out of the car about six miles from Bristol, Tenn., she said, and was in fatigued and highly nervous condition. Her blindfold slipped down, and she saw Litteral, whom she identified in court during her testimony.

At Tenn. Farm Home
She made her way to the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. James Bowling, who carried her to Bristol, bought some clothes to replace the clothes mutilated by her assailants, purchased her a bus ticket to Elkin and placed her on the bus. The remainder of her testimony concerned her physical disability and illness and being in the care of physicians during the next few weeks.

She said she is still sore in her back and legs from blows received on the night of the assault and that her nervous condition remains bad.

Attractive Girl
The assault victim was neatly and attractively dressed in a red sweater and plaid skirt and wore a pearl necklace. Court spectators were lavish in their praise of her attractive appearance and her demeanor on the stand.

Testimony of Miss Shore, who was cross examined by attorneys for both defendants, was completed before court recessed for lunch.

Peggy Corroborated
First witnesses in the afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. James Bowling, of Bristol, Tenn., to whose home Peggy Shore said she walked after being put out of the car by Litteral and Bell.

Both testified that Peggy Shore came to their home just at break of day on August 24, that she approached the house screaming: "O, my God, somebody help me." They further stated that her clothes were bloody and torn and that her underclothes had been torn from her. She told them, they said, that she had been kidnaped and raped by two men.

They said they carried her to Bristol, Tenn., where they gave her clothes, something to eat and put her on a bus to Elkin.

Henry H. Darter, of near Bristol, said that a car occupied by two men stopped at his service station on the morning of August 24 and bought gasoline. He identified Litteral as the man who paid for the gas.

Patsy Ruth Myers and Jo Anne Johnson, two associates with Peggy Shore at the watermelon feast in Elkin on the night of August 23, corroborated Peggy Shore's testimony that a car without lights followed the bus they were riding into the Pleasant Hill community after 11 p. m.

Proves Good Character
Charles Pardue, Thurman Luffman, Rev. Richard Day, Denver Holcomb, Clyde Hinshaw, Rev. David Day, Eugene Couch and R. O. Poplin, Jr., Ronda school principal, said Peggy Shore's character was good.

Heard Girl Scream
R. M. Alexander, who lives on the Traphill road in Eastern Wilkes at the point where Peggy Shore said she was kidnaped and thrown into a car by Litteral and Bell, said that he heard a girl scream after 11 p. m., that he looked toward the road, heard a car door slam and saw a car driving away.

Russell Darnell, driver of the bus from which Peggy Shore alighted, said he observed a car following the bus as they left Elkin and that the car had no lights. Leo Reavis, of Jonesville, testified that he saw Litteral and Bell together in Elkin before 11 p. m. (See Rape Trial—Page 7)

U. D. C. Sponsoring A Tribute to Lee

The United Daughters of the Confederacy is sponsoring a nation tribute to Robert E. Lee, whose birthday occurs on Sunday, January 19. Each chapter, throughout the nation, is asking all ministers in the county, in their services on Sunday, either to mention Lee as a Christian in their sermons, or in some other part of worship. Where possible the local chapter is extending a personal request to the ministers in carrying out this movement by National Headquarters of the U. D. C.

"Cornzapoppin" To Be Presented Here Friday & Saturday

Veterans of Foreign Wars Play To Be Given At School Auditorium

The play, "Cornzapoppin", sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1142 for a benefit to raise money for a Memorial Building, will be staged Friday and Saturday nights at the North Wilkesboro high school auditorium. "Cornzapoppin" features many well known local people in a show that is a landslide of laughs from start to finish.

In addition to Saturday night's performance will be the Baby Contest and trophies will be awarded to the winners.

Don't miss this Grand Ole Opry home talent play.

The cast is as follows:

Henry Judkins, Mac Kerley; Elvirey Judkins, Linda Bumgarner; Sue Judkins, Betty Kendall; Cousin Linney Pearl, Betty Church; Miss Truitt, Gladys Lovette; Ann Besse, Mrs. Brenda Blakewood; Marie Mae, Janie Clark; Elmer Judkins, Guess Who!; Bob Sandrock, Henry Pearson; Squire Hicks, Pat Hunt.

Following are results of the baby contest to date with the number of votes for each entry: Camille Lovette, 2,062; Mary Ann Nichols, 1,400; Anne Kilby, 241; Suzanne Stafford, 121; Polly Gilliam Carson, 119; Bonnie Broome, 108; Lynne Harvel, 79; Susan Kite, 50; Sarah Brewer, 23; Carolyn Derrick, 21; Brenda Roe Church, 15; Martha Dickson, 6; Dicky Whittington, 1,049; Harold Blankenship, 283; Paul Clontz, Jr., 242; Jimmie Allen, 233; Steve Walsh, 227; John Edward Stout, 179; Jay Foster, 156; Dickey Dickerson, 138; Russell Gray, 129; Gene Stacy, 119; Thomas Caudill, Jr., 107; James Eric Williams, 98; Benny Phillips, 64; Russell Pearson, 53; Roger Staley.

The contest will close on Saturday, January 18. Final votes and prizes will be awarded at Saturday night's performance of "Cornzapoppin" at North Wilkesboro school auditorium. Results of the contest are posted daily in a show window of Penney's in this city.

Associational - S. S. Convention

Will Be Held On January 21st At Hinshaw Street Baptist Church Here

Meeting of the Brushy Mountain Baptist Sunday School association will be held with Hinshaw Street Baptist church in North Wilkesboro, on Tuesday, January 21, at 7 p. m.

"This is a Southside meeting for the co-operative plan. The associational officers in our 925 associations are promoting the church planning meeting and have planned to go into our 26,000 Southern Baptist churches. Some 15,000 or more team members will be used in this Southside plan. Be present at this meeting as the purpose of it will be discussed then," Mr. Jordan said.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL
Rev. E. M. Lackey, Rector

The annual congregational meeting will be held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon, January 19th, at four o'clock, at which time reports from the various church organizations will be given and a vestry election for this year. All members are asked to be present.

Annual Meeting Wilkes Chamber Commerce Friday

Will Be Held At 7:30 P. M. in Town Hall; Thomas Carroll Speaker

The North Wilkesboro City hall will be the scene Friday night of the first annual meeting of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce. The meeting will start at 7:30 and will have as its theme the work of the Chamber of Commerce for the past year, and plans for 1947.

Harry Krues, general manager of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, originally scheduled to address the meeting, will be unable to attend. The speaker will be Mr. Thomas Carroll, personnel manager of the Wachovia Bank & Trust Company of Winston-Salem. Mr. Carroll was, for a number of years, head of the Winston-Salem Community Chest before entering the banking business. He is now serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, and is thoroughly familiar with chamber of commerce problems.

President J. B. Williams announced today that wives and guests of all the chamber members were cordially invited to attend this meeting. Reports will be made by the president and the secretary-manager. Refreshments will be served at the close of the meeting.

Wilkesboro 4-H Club In Meeting

The Wilkesboro 4-H club met Wednesday, January 8. The club was called to order by the president. The club pledge was repeated. The club was divided into two sections. Miss Morrison met with the girls and Mr. Williamson the boys. Each member planned their project for the following year.—Lucille Mathis, reporter.

Marriage License

License to wed were issued during the past week by Register of Deeds Troy C. Foster to the following: William Clyde Brown and Tessie Baugous, both of Traphill; Cecil Woodrow Humphries, Oak Hill, W. Va., and Gladys Frances Romage, Layland, W. Va.; Junior Owens and Thelma Brown Finney, both of North Wilkesboro; L. W. Lambert, Jr., Union Grove, and Edith Brooks, Ronda; James Mayberry, New Hope, and Flossie Cook, Statesville.

State Tax Office In New Location

Harry L. Summers, Deputy Collector, North Carolina Department of Revenue, announces that his office has been moved from the first floor at the City Hall, to the second floor. The new location is in the rear of the court room, in the office formerly occupied by Local Draft Board No. 2.

Mr. Summers is in his office on Mondays only, between 9 a. m. and 5 p. m.

Burcham Honored On 80th Birthday

Friends and relatives of W. G. Burcham, well known citizen of the Roaring River route one community, gathered at his home Sunday and honored him with a birthday dinner on his 80th birthday. A bountiful dinner was spread on a long table and after words of greeting and devotion by Rev. John Burcham, brother of the aged man, the food was enjoyed by all present. The crowd, estimated at 140, included six children, 35 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Among those present from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burcham and Mr. and Mrs. Pervis Burcham, of Aberdeen, Md.

Tommie Anderson At Midway Pontiac

Tommie W. Anderson, for five years with Gaddy Motor company, has accepted a position in the service department of Midway Pontiac company, which is located between the Wilkesboro,