

HOME NEAR RONDA DESTROYED BY FIRE SUNDAY



This picture shows the home of John Parks, located one mile west of Ronda, as the residence was being destroyed by fire Sunday morning. The home was occupied by Mr. Parks and his son, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Parks and family. The seven-room house and all furnishings were destroyed. The fire was discovered by a neighbor after the Parks family had left to attend Sunday school. (Photo by J. W. Hurt).

Authority Mayor's Court Here Upheld By Supreme Court

Judge Rudisill's Decision In Grace Winger Case Is Reversed

Raleigh, March 22—The State Supreme Court today upheld the authority of the mayor's court of North Wilkesboro.

The court reversed a ruling under which Superior Court Judge J. C. Rudisill granted Grace Hayes Winger her freedom in a habeas corpus proceeding.

The defendant was convicted by Mayor R. T. McNeil in the North Wilkesboro mayor's court of operating a bawdy house and sentenced to two years.

The habeas corpus action was brought on the contention that the North Wilkesboro Court was improperly constituted. This was because of a special legislative act which provided that the judge of the North Wilkesboro court should be appointed by the town board of aldermen. The board did not appoint a judge because it feared that the special act was unconstitutional.

In the court's opinion, Associate Justice Sam J. Ervin wrote that a judge's title to his office cannot be impeached in a habeas corpus proceeding.

The defendant still has an appeal from her conviction pending in the Wilkes Superior Court.

The high court ruled on three other cases tried in Wilkes. Judgment in the case of Bumgarner versus Bumgarner was affirmed and the same decision was handed down in the case of Nichols versus Goldston. No error was found in the case of Combs versus Porter.

Scout Council Training Course

The Old Hickory Council, Boy Scouts of America will conduct a group of "Training Meetings" on Saturday afternoon, March 25th, at the Gilbert Roth Y. M. C. A. in Elkin. These meetings will start at 3:00 o'clock and continue until a supper meeting at 6:30. During the afternoon sessions will be offered to Scout Leaders in Organization & Extension, Advancement and Leadership Training. Scout Leaders from all over the Council will act as instructors.

The Organization & Extension session will cover methods of organizing Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Explorer Posts. The Advancement session will cover the steps of Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class Advancement; the Merit Badge Program; the Troop and District Board of Revision and the Court of Honor. The Leadership Training Session will cover the new Scoutmasters Basic Training Course and the requirements to earn the Scoutmasters Training Award and the Scoutmasters Key.

All Scout Leaders from Wilkes County are urged to attend.

Mrs. W. T. Whitsett, of Whitsett, arrived here Tuesday for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Hadley Hayes, and Mr. Hayes. Mrs. Whitsett had spent the winter in Florida.

LOCALS

Miss Alma Horton had as her guest for the week-end her cousins, Miss Dorothy Whicker, of Winston-Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Phillips, of Dalton, were guests here Sunday of Dr. and Mrs. G. T. Mitchell. Mr. Phillips is a brother of Mrs. Mitchell.

Mr. Jimmy Blair, who is attending the Georgia Military Academy at College Park, Ga., will arrive here to-morrow to spend a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Blair. He plans to make the trip by plane.

Mrs. Annie Haines left by plane Saturday from Winston-Salem for Jacksonville, Fla., for an extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Richard Dutton, and Mr. Dutton.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bell had as their guests for the day Sunday Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Moore and two children, Beverly Ruth and Kathryn, of Dalton. Mrs. Moore, the former Miss Margaret Phillips, and Mrs. Bell were college roommates at Woman's College in Greensboro.

Dr. and Mrs. P. D. Warren, of Huntsville, Ala., and son, Mr. Bonner Warren, who is a senior at Auburn University, Auburn, Ala., spent from Friday until Monday here with Mrs. Warren's father, Dr. W. A. Taylor, and Dr. Carolyn Taylor Williams, and Mr. Chris Williams.

Miss Hattie McLean and Miss Frances Jones, both of Winston-Salem, arrived here today and will be houseguests of Miss McLean's sister, Mrs. F. C. Forester, for the remainder of the week. They came up to attend the pre-nuptial courtesies for Miss Corinne Faw and her wedding on Saturday with Mr. Charles Sink, of this city.

Mr. Ed Dancy, Jr., who is attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, spent the spring holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dancy. His wife, Mrs. Dancy, who teaches in the English department of the college, came in with him and visited with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. G. Grubbs, at Wake Forest.

T. B. Committee Will Meet Monday

Wilkes Tuberculosis Association committee will meet Monday, five p. m., in the directors' room of the Bank of North Wilkesboro. Every member is asked to attend.

Plan Square Dance At Moravian Falls

All who attend the old time square dance to be held Saturday night at Moravian Falls are assured an enjoyable occasion and proceeds will go to the community house fund. A string band from Taylorsville will furnish music for the dance.

Benefit Card Party At Moravian Falls

All are invited to the benefit card party which will be held Friday night at Moravian Falls community house for benefit of the community house fund.

All kinds of card games will be played and reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Lloyd Phillips or Mrs. J. G. Bentley.

Red Cross Fund Total Is Growing Slowly In County

Red Cross fund campaign in Wilkes county today had a total of \$3,928.03, which is far short of the \$7,800 quota set for the county, W. G. Gabriel, fund chairman, stated today.

Chapter officials are urging every effort possible to complete the drive during the remainder of the month.

Some divisions of the campaign have made good progress while in others work has been lagging.

The Special Gifts committee has raised a total of \$2,083.49 from industries and business firms. The North Wilkesboro business district canvass raised an even thousand dollars, while \$375.60 was raised in the North Wilkesboro residential districts.

Few reports have been received from canvass of industrial employees, with the total to date being \$158.44. A number of reports are yet to be received from that phase of the campaign.

In Wilkesboro \$150 was given in the business district and \$70 from residential areas.

Very few reports have been received from workers in rural areas, who have been greatly handicapped by bad weather and in some communities much illness. The rural total today was only \$68.50. Total from colored residential areas today was \$22.

Lighting Subject P-T. A. Meeting

The North Wilkesboro P-T. A. met in the school auditorium Thursday night with the president, Mr. Dermont Smith, presiding. Miss Haire, member of the school faculty led a very impressive devotional using as her theme, "Jesus, The Light." Mrs. R. S. Gibbs, chairman of the library committee, reported that 105 books had been purchased and placed in the elementary libraries. Room count for attendance gave the highest totals to Mrs. Leith and Miss Sale.

For the program, Mr. Paul Tysinger, lighting supervisor for the Duke Power Company, gave a very interesting program on "Lights and Their Effects." He started with the history of the first lights and bulbs, and showed the development that had been made in lighting, mentioning the various types of lights and their uses. His demonstrations with the different bulbs were very entertaining, especially the ones using fluorescent bulbs, and his clever ideas of the lights under high frequency. "You should have seen the faded, battered U. S. Flag come into its true colors under some of these lights. The program was very instructive, as well as entertaining; it is unfortunate that a larger number of persons could not have been present," report of the meeting said.

Mr. Dudley Moore had as his guest a few days this week Mr. Wilson Craig, of Sumter, S. C. Mr. Moore spent the weekend with Mr. Craig, who accompanied him home. Tomorrow the boys return to State College at Raleigh following the close of the spring holidays.

Mrs. Lott On Area Program At Hickory

Mrs. Kathryn Lott, manager of the North Wilkesboro office of the North Carolina Employment Service, had a featured role in the area meeting of managers held yesterday in Hickory.

Mrs. Lott led one of the panel discussions before the area group of managers at the meeting.

J. H. Whicker, Sr. Is Candidate For Office N.C. Senate

Local Attorney Files For Republican Nomination For Upper House

J. H. Whicker, Sr., prominent North Wilkesboro attorney, has filed as a candidate on the Republican ticket for the State Senate for the 24th senatorial district of North Carolina.

Mr. Whicker is a widely known attorney and has been prominent for many years in public affairs in Wilkes county. He is a Baptist and teacher of one of the largest men's Bible classes in the State of North Carolina. He is a member of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club, a member of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, a Mason and was four years ago a candidate for Congress from this District.

Wilkes County is entitled to the senator, who will be elected from Wilkes, Yadkin and Davie Counties.

For some time friends have been urging Mr. Whicker to seek this office and point out that if nominated and elected, he will be one of the outstanding representatives in the North Carolina senate.

W. E. Horner Is A Candidate For Congress In 8th

Sanford Publisher Files For Seat In Representatives Held By Deane

W. E. (Bill) Horner, Sanford publisher, has filed as a candidate for congress to represent the eighth district.

As candidate for the Democratic nomination Mr. Horner will oppose C. B. Deane, of Rockingham, incumbent congressman who has already filed for renomination.

Mr. Horner was a candidate two years ago and lost the nomination by margin of only 354 votes. A resident of Sanford, Mr. Horner is publisher of the Sanford Herald and is well known in the publishing business in North Carolina.

Political observers predict a spirited race in the eighth district.

Forrest E. Jones Goes To Lenoir As Manager Chamber

Forrest E. Jones, for the past two years president of Wilkes Mountain Poultry Products company in Wilkesboro, has resigned his position with that industry to become manager of the Lenoir Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Jones, who is now engaged in moving to Lenoir, will take up his new duties April 1.

A native of Winchester, Va., Mr. Jones came to North Wilkesboro as the first manager of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce. Later he and associates organized the Wilkes Mountain Poultry Products company, which is engaged in processing of poultry.

Mr. Jones has sold his stock in the poultry firm to Harry Hettinger, a business associate, who is now in charge of the business and will continue its operation.

Miss Eva Bingham At Band Convention

Miss Eva Bingham, director of North Wilkesboro high school band, this week is attending a national convention of band and music department directors at St. Louis, Mo.

During Miss Bingham's absence Claude Jarrett, instructor of the Wilkesboro high school band, is carrying on Miss Bingham's work at North Wilkesboro.

Holbrook Claims Self Defense And Accidental Shot

Traphill Man Said His Gun Went Off And Killed Paul Hemric

Grant (Skinny) Holbrook, Traphill man on trial for first degree murder in Wilkes court for the death of Paul Hemric, of Ronda, at Holbrook's store at Traphill December 17, testified in Wilkes court this afternoon that he was acting in defense of his own life when his rifle accidentally discharged and instantly killed Hemric.

Hemric was killed, state witnesses said earlier today, when he and Holbrook were outside of the store. Previously there had been a brief argument about the taste of some liquor which the men were drinking from a half gallon fruit jar.

A principal witness for the state was Mrs. Foye Billings, who lived nearby. She said she saw from the yard of her home a man going at a fast pace and followed by another man whom she thought was Holbrook. She said the man in front apparently stopped and turned his head, at which time she heard the shot.

The wound was in the side of Hemric's head. Bullet from the high powered rifle blasted away part of his skull.

Another state witness was James Hall, of Ronda, who with Grady Moore went with Hemric to the Holbrook store.

Paul Royal, a youth of the community, told of seeing Holbrook after the shooting going into the woods with a gun. He said he later directed Deputy Sheriff Blaine Sparks in search for the gun, which was found under a log.

Holbrook's trial begun Wednesday with selection of a jury. Solicitor Avalon E. Hall is being assisted in prosecution by T. R. Bryan.

Eugene Trivette, W. C. Mitchell, W. H. McElwee and J. B. Holshouser are defense attorneys.

Seventy-five jurors were examined before the jury of 12 and one extra man was completed near 4:30 p. m. Wednesday and Judge J. C. Rudisill adjourned court until this morning.

The jury is composed entirely of men and is made up principally of Wilkes county farmers.

Wilkesboro Will Have Drug Store

A drug store will be opened in Wilkesboro in four to six weeks.

Palmer Horton, owner of Horton's Drug store in North Wilkesboro, this week purchased from Charles Howard the building now housing Mr. Howard's grocery store on Wilkesboro's Main street.

Mr. Horton said that Mr. Howard is now closing out his stock of groceries and work of remodeling and renovating the building will be begun as early as possible.

The drug store, Mr. Horton said, will be modern and complete throughout and will have new fixtures, new equipment and new stock of drug store merchandise. Further announcements relative to the new addition to Wilkesboro's business district will appear later.

George Byrd Dies In West Virginia

George W. Byrd, 92, of North Wilkesboro, Route 2, died Wednesday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. N. T. Adams, of Bluestone, W. Va. The body will be taken to the home of a daughter, Mrs. L. E. Ashlin, of Hays. Funeral service will be at two o'clock Friday at Round Mountain Church with Rev. Monroe Dillard in charge. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Mr. Byrd spent most of his life in Wilkes County. He was a retired farmer and had been in ill health for some time.

Surviving are eight daughters: Mrs. N. T. Adams, Bluestone, W. Va.; Mrs. Maggie Church, Greenville, Delaware; Mrs. Clemie Cromer, Mrs. Tallie Mae Jester, Mrs. Callie Elledge, Winston-Salem; Mrs. C. O. Richardson, North Wilkesboro; Mrs. L. E. Ashlin, Hays; and Mrs. Pearl Billings, Radical; and four sons: J. H. Byrd, D. Rommie Byrd, Bluestone, W. Va.; Glen Byrd, Pagetown, W. Va.; and Charlie Byrd, High Point, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Miller visited with relatives in Louisville last week-end.

Rev. George Staples Coming Here Sunday

Rev. George E. Staples, of Winston-Salem, will preach Sunday morning, 11 o'clock, at the North Wilkesboro First Presbyterian church. His subject will be "The Battle Ground of Unhappiness."

Rubinoff Pleases Audiences With Masterful Music

Rubinoff and his violin came to town yesterday and the place hasn't been the same since.

The great master of violin music captivated every audience with his music and personality during his busy day in the Wilkesboros and today the weather as a topic of discussion has been supplanted by praise of Rubinoff as a musician and as a man.

Rubinoff and his party, which included Mrs. Rubinoff, were met at Moravian Falls Wednesday by an escort party of the North Wilkesboro Lions Club, sponsor of his concert here, and highway patrol.

After arriving at Hotel Wilkes Rubinoff immediately set out for another busy day. He made assembly appearances at North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro schools and at noon spoke and played to a joint meeting of civic club representatives at Hotel Wilkes. In the afternoon he gave a concert at the high school and appeared on radio station WKBC.

Rubinoff has two subjects which interest him most — his music and his five-year-old son, Rubin.

"You'll want to hear about our son. He's in college," was the first comment of the famous violinist to a Journal-Patriot staff writer after his arrival here. Rubinoff is perhaps the youngest college student in America. The Rubinoffs wanted their son to take violin instruction from an instructor at Midwestern University near their home at Wichita Falls, Texas. But the professor said he could not take outside students — only those enrolled at the college. Rubinoff plunked down the entrance fee of \$185 and little Rubin is in college.

The Rubinoffs are happy people. Charming Mrs. Rubinoff says above everything else that her mate is a good husband. He loves work and he loves music, which are one and the same to the man who has thrilled millions with his \$100,000 Stradivarius. His day of seven appearances on the minute here were described as a quieter day than usual on a concert tour. In Charlotte he made 16 different appearances in one day.

Six days each week he is filling concert engagements. Often they have to get out of bed and on the road by five a. m. to make the next town. The maestro spends more time in free appearances before school children than for pay. He said here that life had been very good for him and that he wanted to repay in some way for the blessings he had received. He loves to inspire children with music such as can come only from his priceless fingers and a violin mellow with the passing of centuries.

Rubinoff is the opposite of anything which could have a highbrow flavor. He loves people and he loves to inspire them with music that can produce laughter or tears. On concert tours through the country Rubinoff is meeting and learning people, and leaving them an experience of music appreciation that they will cherish throughout their lives.

First Methodist To Have Rummage Sale

The Woman's Society of the First Methodist church is sponsoring another rummage sale on Saturday April, the first. The sale, to begin at nine o'clock, will be held on Tenth Street in the building formerly occupied by the Wilkes Hatchery. All members of the church having anything to donate for the sale will please contact Mrs. W. F. Gaddy.

Honor Wilkes Girl In South Carolina

Miss Peggy Brown, of Traphill, N. C., was elected secretary of the newly formed Future Teachers Association of South Carolina at Columbia, Saturday, March 18. Miss Brown is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert C. Brown of Traphill, N. C. and is now a sophomore at Spartanburg Junior College in Spartanburg, S. C.

Brett Cothren Is Suddenly Killed In Highway Collision

Traphill Resident Victim of Accident Near Roaring River Monday

Brett Cothren, 46, a prominent citizen of the Traphill community, was tragically killed Monday afternoon in a highway collision on highway 268, just west of the Roaring River bridge at Roaring River.

Mr. Cothren, a former Wilkes deputy sheriff, was enroute to the livestock market here and was hauling three calves on a pickup truck when his vehicle collided on the highway with a truck driven by Dewey Byrd, a concrete block manufacturer at Roaring River.

The entire front of Mr. Cothren's pickup truck was crashed back into the normal position of the cab. Persons who gathered at the scene of the accident worked for some time to get the crushed body from the wreckage.

Mr. Byrd, who was driving the other truck, was painfully injured and was taken to the hospital in Elkin. He is expected to recover, barring complications. With Mr. Byrd was Lonnie Burgham, of Elkin, who escaped with minor injuries.

The accident was investigated by Wilkes Coroner I. M. Myers and members of the State Highway patrol. No charges have been preferred.

The calves on Mr. Cothren's pickup were not hurt.

Mr. Cothren was a son of the late Rev. Grant Cothren and Nellie Bauguess Cothren of Wilkes County.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Dora Brooks Cothren; five children, Brady and Grady Cothren of Elkin, Glenn Cothren of State Road, Dean, Harley and Von Cothren of Traphill; one grandchild and five brothers and sisters, J. L. and Ford Cothren of Elkin, Mrs. James Webster and J. O. Cothren of Traphill, Bohnson Cothren of State Road. Also surviving are two half brothers and one half sister, Warren and John A. Cothren and Miss Lois Cothren of Traphill.

Funeral services for Mr. Cothren were held today at Round Hill church, where he was a member. Rev. L. E. Sparks, Rev. David W. Day and Rev. Charlie Miles conducted the service, which was largely attended. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Western Piedmont Safety Council To Meet Friday, 24th

The first quarterly meeting of the Western Piedmont Safety Council will be held in Hickory, North Carolina in the Hickory High School Auditorium at 7:30 p. m., Friday, March 24, 1950.

The feature speaker of the evening will be Mr. J. D. Boyd, Personnel Director of the Melrose Hosier Mills, Inc., of High Point, whose subject will be "The Personnel Approach to Safety." Mr. Boyd is recommended as a speaker of note with a great deal of knowledge about the problems of safety; in fact, he has appeared on the program of several of the other councils, as well as on the program of the 1949 Statewide Industrial Safety Conference, and has been enthusiastically received on every occasion.

There will also be a business meeting, and some entertainment has been planned.

Coach Snavely To Speak Here Friday

Carl Snavely, football coach at the University of North Carolina, will speak at a dinner meeting of the University Alumni and members of the University Educational Foundation at Hotel Wilkes Friday evening, 8:30.

Coach Snavely will bring with him Bob Cox or Walt Papa. They will show pictures of Tarheel football games and tell of 1950 season prospects for football at Carolina.

Those who will attend are asked to make reservation at once with Tom Jenrette at the office of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce.

Judge Johnson J. Hayes was a business visitor in Greensboro and Lexington Tuesday and Wednesday.