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Seth M. Vining, Editor

MONDAY, MAY 25TH, 1953

Theatre Manager Murdered In Tryon Sunday Morning

What people usually see in make believe on film took place in real life Sunday morning when Projectionist Phletus Pressley went to Tryon Theatre about 10:30 to get the film ready for the day's showing. He found Manager Edward Ball, 31, slumped over in a pool of blood near the counter in the theatre lobby. He called the police and others who sent for Coroner Otis Dalton. The dead man had been shot in the chin and the bullet went through his brains.

In opening Mr. Ball's shirt it was revealed that he had been shot a few hours before in the right shoulder and the wound had been dressed with gauze and covered with cloth.

W. Y. Wilkins Sr., at whose home Ball had an apartment said he left the Wilkins house about 10 a. m., and he seemed to be all right then. 30 minutes later he was dead.

The town officials sent for the SBI agents to aid the local police in a thorough investigation and they now have charge of the case. Something is expected to develop in a few days. The murderer is unknown at present.

Manager Ball's automobile has six bullet holes in it. These are thought to have been put in the car at close range early Sunday morning about 2 o'clock on Markham Road near the Tryon cemetery and at that time Mr. Ball was wounded in the right shoulder.

Following the attack on Markham road, Ball drove to the Drive-In Theatre which he also managed, and called Edward R. Goodyear to help him. Goodyear took

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Mr. and Mrs. Powell Drowned In Green River On Saturday

Mr. and Mrs. Melville Powell, ages 35 and 34, were drowned Saturday shortly afternoon in Green River near Womack's bridge in the Pea Ridge section.

Mr. and Mrs. Powell and two sons, Steve, 13, and Robert, 11, went to Green River to cool off. The boys were the only witnesses to the tragedy, and according to friends, young Robert could not go in swimming on account of having had a heart attack twice this year. Steve was the only one swimming in deep water. He seemed to be strangling and the father, fully clothed, jumped in to save him and never came up. The mother, unable to swim, jumped in during the excitement, to help out, and drowned in the attempt. Young Robert went to the rescue of his mother and managed to pull her ashore. In the meantime Steve had reached safety.

The boys went for help. Doctors, ambulances, resuscitators, police, sheriff and highway patrol officers all answered the call. Mr. Powell's body was recovered downstream.

Mr. Powell was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Quincy M. Powell of Mill Spring. He was a former sanitarian for the Polk-Rutherford Health District, and lectured on health problems to various civic groups. He was well known throughout the county and was active in young people's work and had coached a number of basketball teams.

Besides his parents and children he is survived by one brother, William Powell and one sister, Mrs. M. G. Browning, both of Spartan-

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