

Gunmen Take Safe From Benson Granny

The Daily Record

THE RECORD
IS FIRST

WEATHER

Thursday fair with moderate temperatures. Highest in the 40's in the mountains and in the 50's elsewhere. Friday generally fair and mild.

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IKE REPORTS OUTLOOK IS BRIGHT



NURSES READY — Plenty of well-wishers were on hand to give Erwin Mills two nurses a good send-off in their new position. Talking with Mrs. Hood (center) and Miss Taylor (left) are (front row, from left) manager of the Erwin Mill W. H. Miley and Dr. L. W. Griffin, Erwin doctor who is one of two Erwin doctors who act as company physicians. (Back row), Dr. William Adair, the other company physician who is also head of Harnett County's Medical Association, the mill's assistant manager J. K. Bruton, J. R. Cathey, of Erwin Mills, and Carl W. Littlejohn of Durham who heads employ insurance and safety for the Erwin Mills organization.

Fired Official Won't Make Her Ouster Letter Public

Miss Wilma Williams, who learned yesterday that the Welfare Board was firing her as a result of her refusal to resign, today received the registered letter which makes her notification of discharge official.

She did not make the contents of the letter public and said that she will turn it over to an attorney, whom she plans to retain to represent her in an appeal action to the State Merit Council. She has held the office since 1942.

Board Member Earl Westbrook said yesterday that since the contents of the letter firing Miss Williams were personal the board had decided not to make it public.

He said, however, that Miss Williams could disclose its contents if she desired. She chose not to do so.

Ted Malone, another member of the board, said today that the board was simply trying to be nice to Miss Williams and had endeavored to handle the matter in a way which would have saved her embarrassment.

"But it appears that she wants to take the hard way out," he added.

MALONE REFUTES REPORT — Malone today refuted reports that he was interested in the job himself and pointed out, "I've got a good job and am satisfied where I am." He is sales manager of Colonial Lumber, large Dunn frozen food wholesale and retail concern.

He disclosed at the same time that months ago, long before he was appointed, to serve on the board, members had approached him to see if he would be interested. (Continued On Page Two)

HARNETT CIVIL CALENDAR RELEASED

Ten Divorce Cases Are Set For Trial

Ten divorce cases and 41 others are scheduled for trial at a two-weeks civil session of Harnett Superior Court which will convene at Lillington on Monday, January 16th.

Judge W. A. Leland McKelhan will preside over the session. He will be Judge McKelhan's first official visit to Harnett.

Those seeking a divorce are: Geneva F. Williams from Huey C. Williams; Albert Lee Johnson from Lucille C. Johnson; Elizabeth Tew, alias Elizabeth Tew Krennenger from Robert L. Krennenger; Roberts Walker Patterson from

Erwin Mills Adds New Health Service

Erwin Mills announced simultaneously today a new employe first aid service at the Erwin, North Carolina, operation and the appointments of Miss Billie Taylor, R. N., and Mrs. Henry Hood, R. N., as industrial nurses for the Erwin, North Carolina, plants.

W. H. Miley, Jr., manager of the Erwin, North Carolina, plants, who made the announcement, stated that the new industrial health program went into effect this week.

Dr. Leslie W. Griffin, who has been practicing in Erwin for the past ten years, and Dr. William E. Adair, Jr., who has been practicing in Erwin for the past fifteen years, will serve as the company physicians for the new facilities.

The new First Aid Building includes three rooms for examination, treatment, and records and reception.

All of the rooms are furnished with the latest medical equipment, Miley said.

Carl W. Littlejohn, Jr., director of employe insurance and safety stated that the Erwin operation medical program is the third such program to be inaugurated by the entire mill chain.

Miss Taylor is a graduate of the Metropolitan Hospital School of Nursing in New York City. Her nursing experience consists of staff

nursing, obstetrics, and U. S. Army Nurses Corps.

For seven years, she was engaged in private duty and public health nursing. She was chief nurse on the medical ward of the Beth David Hospital, New York.

Miss Taylor was born in Tarboro, North Carolina, and has been living in Erwin for the past four years.

Mrs. Hood graduated from the Rex Hospital School of Nursing in Raleigh in 1939. She served as operating room supervisor at Rex Hospital for two years and medical and hall supervisor at Rex Hospital for two years. She is a former public health nurse for Cumberland and Harnett Counties.

Mrs. Hood is married, has two children and she has been residing in Dunn for several years.

16 Tons Tune Writer Denies Beating Wife

HOLLYWOOD — Cowboy Singer Merle Travis, 37, composer of the hit song "Sixteen Tons," maintained today he didn't slug his wife on the head with a frontier pistol but admitted he did do a little shooting in the house.

The entertainer surrendered meekly to police yesterday after they barricaded his home on a report by his wife Betty, 31, that he was armed and threatened to shoot anyone trying to enter the house. Officers, armed with riot guns and tear gas, surrounded the North Hollywood dwelling for two hours before Travis gave up.

Mrs. Travis, although she called the police, refused to sign a wife-beating complaint against her pudev spouse. He was booked on a drunk charge, but it was dropped for a lack of evidence. Travis was released.

"I love everybody," Travis proclaimed as he was freed. "You don't do such things as shoot people. I'm the happiest guy in the world."

Grace Kelly To Wed Prince Of Monaco

NEW YORK — Prince Rainier III of Monaco announced his engagement to actress Grace Kelly today through his office in Monte Carlo. Even close friends were caught by surprise.

The glamorous couple, who held hands until the wee hours this morning in a New York night club, hid out from questioners even after the announcement came from Monte Carlo.

"I have no statement to make," said golden-haired Miss Kelly through her secretary. Until yesterday, even her studio officials had no idea any serious romance was brewing. They had kept secret their Christmas rendezvous with her family in Philadelphia.

Prince Rainier, 32, who arrived here Dec. 16 and denied he had come to seek a wife, left the apartment of Charles Munroe, his host, early and could not be reached. Presumably he was with the 25-year-old film star who is a socialite in her own right.

ANNOUNCED BY FAMILY — A short time after the Monte Carlo announcement, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Kelly, parents of the film star, confirmed the report at their home in Philadelphia.

The announcement took a big load off the minds of the prince's 22,000 subjects. If the prince dies without an heir, the 370-acre postage-stamp principality would be ceded to France under a treaty concluded during World War I.

That would mean that Monacogues, who presently pay no taxes and do no military service, would have to do both under French law.

Both are Roman Catholics, a key factor in Rainier's choice. He and Miss Kelly had dated in Monaco (Continued On Page Four)



GRACE KELLY

HELD IN JAIL WITHOUT BOND

Four Harnett Men Held In Shooting

Two more Harnett County Negroes were arrested yesterday by Cumberland County police on charges of staging a secret assault early Sunday upon a Slocomb farmer, bringing the total arrests in the case to four.

Record Roundup

MUSICAL VARIETIES — Mrs. Reta Whittenton announces the schedule of her radio program, "Musical Varieties" which is heard each evening at 3:00 over W. C. K. B. Monday - Mrs. Whittenton will present an organ program; Tuesday - Mrs. R. M. Willford will sing; Wednesday - Jean Blackman will be the vocalist; Thursday - A recording will be played featuring Thad Pope, Jr. with his guitar; Friday - Olive Gray Herring will play the piano.

HE OWES HIS SOUL TO STORE HE ROBBED — A confessed shoplifter who tried to fit the words of a popular song, "Sixteen Tons," to his personal troubles was in jail today.

Sherman Calvin admitted stealing from a downtown store but said he was "kind of like that guy in the song."

"I owe my soul to that store," he said. "If you send me to jail, I can't go."

Said Judge John A. Ricca, "Your body is my jurisdiction, not your soul. Thirty days."



THESE GIRLS NEED A HOME — They are female, but they're mighty cute, and potential owners can have them merely by contacting and paying a small fee to Dog Warden Earl Wells. He doesn't guarantee any hereditary statement along with them, but they are the best-looking pups he's picked since his term as dog warden began. Wells warns dog owners, however, that pups, even when they're as small and cute as these, must be listed on tax statements if the master wants to keep square with local officials.

But Says Tax Cut Would Not Be Wise

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower today ruled out any tax cut now.

He forecast a balanced budget both this year and next, despite needs for increased spending at home and abroad.

But the President, in his State of the Union message to Congress, said a tax cut can not be deemed justifiable only when it will not unbalance the budget.

He said all excise taxes must be continued at their present rates and the corporation income tax must be continued at the present rate of 52 per cent for another year. Unless Congress acts, these taxes are scheduled for reductions April 1.

As for the personal income tax, and taxes in general, he said: "Under conditions of high peacetime prosperity, such as now exist, we can never justify going further into debt to give ourselves a tax cut at the expense of our children."

FISCAL INTEGRITY — "So, in the present state of our financial affairs, I earnestly believe that a tax cut can be deemed justifiable only when it will not unbalance the budget, a budget which takes provision for some reduction, even though modest, in our national debt. In this way we can best maintain fiscal integrity."

The President said "the outlook is bright with promise" but warned that Russia has "demonstrated conclusively" it is not yet willing to create the indispensable conditions for a secure and lasting peace.

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Big Sum Taken In Bold Act

By **TED CRAIL**
Record Staff Writer

Five armed men held a 67-year-old grandmother at gunpoint today in Benson, and stole a safe belonging to her son, W. T. Webb of Benson, a convicted and reportedly wealthy bootlegger.

Highway Patrolman Rommie Williamson, who went to the scene, said the men made away with a large but undisclosed amount of money, all in cash.

The gunmen were last seen leaving the scene driving toward Sampson on North Carolina Highway 242 in a dark green '51 or '52 Pontiac with a North Carolina license plate.

Williamson couldn't give the amount of cash that had been stolen — the robbers apparently took the whole safe without breaking the combination — but stated: "It may have been one (Continued On Page Two)

Sexy Phone Artist Breaks Up Homes

LONDON — There's a sexy-voiced young gal in England trying to break up as many marriages as time will allow.

Her only weapon is the telephone. Through it she is conducting a "plant the seed of suspicion" campaign. She is probably laughing up her tea cup, but her married victims have taken a dimmer view.

She dials a number, presumably picked at random, from a local phone directory, and if the lady of the house answers, the conversation would go something like this:

"Is Mr. — at home? I want to speak to him."

If the husband comes to the phone, our heroine hangs up. But if he's out, this is what she tells

the wife:

"Tell your husband I will not be able to see him as arranged. Jolly, wot?"

The "voice", who operates out of Birkenhead, Cheshire (near Liverpool), does by no means limit herself to just one routine. This is how she would work on another (Continued On Page Two)

27 KILLED IN COUNTY

Harnett Highway Deaths, '55 Patrolman Makes Time Clock

Corporal Rommie Williamson, head of the Highway Patrol for Harnett County, sat down in our office yesterday and made out a series of notes covering highway accidents in Harnett in '55. Here are his notes:

Twenty-seven killed (this is a record).
Twenty-four killed in the rural area.
Three killed in the town of Dunn (all by trains).
Five hundred sixteen accidents investigated by the State Highway Patrol.

Two hundred and thirty-five injured.
PROPERTY DAMAGE: \$231,477.
And Rommie produced the same set of figures from 1954 to prove that, point by point, Harnett had gotten worse. There were 21 persons killed in '54, 19 in the rural area, one in Dunn, one in Lillington, 355 accidents, 191 injured. **PROPERTY DAMAGE: \$146,073.**

But his notes contained something far more devastating than that. Rommie made a sort of time-clock, covering the whole year of 1955, showing how death had followed death so quickly, sometimes, that there could have been a collision of funerals. Here is his time-clock:

JANUARY 8 — U. S. 301, north of Dunn. DEAD: Vonnie Heath, 36, of Four Oaks. Driver, her husband, ran into a truck.

FEBRUARY 3, 10 p. m. — Rural dirt road 12 miles south of Lillington. DEAD: William West, 25, of Spring Lake, North Carolina. Ran off road into ditch, not found until morning.

FEBRUARY 15, 11:40 p. m. — DEAD: Donald R. Curry, 21, of Fort Bragg. Ran off road into ditch.

FEBRUARY 16, 9:45 p. m. — Rural paved road west of Lillington. DEAD: Donald Ross Stewart, 26, of Broadway, North Carolina.

FEBRUARY 19, 10:15 p. m. — Highway 210 south of Lillington. DEAD: Elizabeth Davis James, 36. **FEBRUARY 27**, 12:30 a. m. — Edwin, N. C. Virgil L. Jordan, 19, of Fort Bragg. Stolen car and wreck. **MARCH 15**, 11:00 p. m. — Highway 210 south of Lillington. (Continued on Page Two)