

# WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

THE DAILY NEWS PRINTS MORE LOCAL NEWS THAN ANY OTHER PAPER IN THE STATE.

VOLUME 7.

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NUMBER 1

## FOUL PLAY IS SUSPECTED IN DEATH OF MRS. BOWEN; INVESTIGATION BEING MADE

### PLYMOUTH WOMAN WAS FOUND BURNED TO DEATH UNDER FLOOR OF HOUSE

#### BODY EXHUMED

Evidence Points Towards Murder. Solicitor Van B. Martin Has Begun Investigation. Traces of Use of Kerosene Have Been Found.

Plymouth, N. C., Dec. 11.—Solicitor Van B. Martin has begun an investigation of the death and burning of the body of Mrs. Mamie Bowen, wife of James Bowen, before Justice W. F. Ausbon and a coroner's jury. The body was exhumed and the evidence begun.

Almost the exclusive topic of conversation during the past week in Plymouth and the surrounding country has been this case. Mrs. Bowen's charred and blackened body was found under the floor of her home at 10:30 o'clock Friday morning, November 19, last. Circumstances pointed to foul play, but replies received from inquiries indicated that she had fallen in to the fire when overcome by an attack of heart disease and had burned to death. Later it developed that the body was too nearly consumed to have been subjected only to the burning of her clothing and such fire as would have been the result.

A hole had been burned in the floor and the body lay on the ground under the house. On it was a pile of ashes, and around the burned floor were evidences that kerosene had been plentifully used. The condition of the room showed that intense heat had resulted from some sort of fuel, and there were indications that the fire had been carefully kept from getting beyond control until evidence of murder should have been destroyed. That the crime occupied long hours of labor was evident from the condition of the body, and that it was done in the night is the conclusion generally arrived at by those who have examined the premises and who passed the house during the morning and early forenoon hours.

Up to Wednesday evening no arrest had been made in connection with the affair. But public sentiment is so aroused now that there is small room for doubt that there will be vigorous prosecution of the investigation, and that the murderer will be discovered.

Several things in connection with the crime are not to the credit of the county or state. It is three weeks this morning since the discovery of the body. Until the details were published and attention called to the laxity of the county officials there had not been one step taken to discover whether it was an accident or a crime. Some days after the horror, Harman Guirkin, father of the murdered woman, sent to the State chemist at Raleigh a piece of the flooring and parts of the matting and linoleum bearing traces of kerosene, and asked to have the chemist determine definitely whether the samples had been saturated with kerosene. After several days he received a reply that no report would be made on the matter except in answer to a demand from a county official. Solicitor Martin then wrote requesting a report, and in time received a reply that the samples seemed to show traces of kerosene.

Know the Flow of Rivers. No one starts to build a house without knowing how much room is wanted or how many people are expected to occupy the house. The same thing should be true of power plants, water supply systems, sewage disposal plants, levees, food control works, irrigation works, and land drainage systems. If such construction work is to be done economically and successfully, a knowledge of the amount of water involved is essential.

### "NOW OR NEVER"

Cleaning, Pressing, Repairing. No that isn't our attitude for we shall be pleased to see you at any time.

We choose now rather than never. Do you consent?

WRIGHT'S STEAM PRESSING WORKS

PHONE 231

## ARE MAKING A PERSONAL ISSUE

Letters Received from Colonel Rodman and F. H. Von Eberstein. Publication is Refused.

We are today in receipt of two letters—one from Colonel W. C. Rodman and the other from F. H. Von Eberstein. Both of them are on the same subject, and are purely personal.

We have declined to publish these letters for two reasons:

First: They have nothing to do with the good roads movement. Second: They make certain misstatements which would require answering and contradiction. These contradictions would probably bring us more letters from the two gentlemen, which we would probably be obliged to answer again, and our readers would have a tiresome and disgusting series of personal attacks to wade through daily.

If either Colonel Rodman or Mr. Von Eberstein had anything to say regarding the good roads movement, we would have been only too glad to have published their views. The colonel, however, appears to have entirely lost sight of—or forgotten—his objections to the bond issue and Mr. Von Eberstein brings out no points either in favor or against it.

We don't want to give the impression that we are "afraid" to publish the above-mentioned letters. However, we scarcely believe that our readers will gain that impression. We do not wish to muddy our columns with a series of personal attacks. We have both of the letters on file in our office and those of our readers who desire to see them, will find them here.

Should either Col. Rodman or Mr. Von Eberstein desire to enter into a controversy with me concerning legislative matters I shall be glad to accommodate them at any time whenever they will distinguish between such matters and the good roads movement in Washington township.

JAS. L. MAYO.

## SUE'S WIFE WHO GOT "LAST DIME HE HAD"

"You Sucker, You Belong in Nut-house," Chicago Woman Wrote Husband.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 11.—An original style of "loving wife" to "darling husband" letters has found its way into the Circuit Court record through Sig Antonio Caramusa's attempt to free himself of an alleged unfaithful cabaret-singer wife.

"Darling husband, you are an insect," is a sample from the letters on which Caramusa bases his divorce plea, scheduled to come up for hearing before Judge Kersten Monday.

He will ask the court what can be done toward restraining his wife from sending him photographs of the men to whom she plans to be married, the photographs bearing taunting inscriptions, according to his attorney.

One of the letters, written after the wife had left her home and settled in Kansas City, Mo., follows: "My darling husband—Received your dear letter and was so surprised to know that you didn't marry me for love. It nearly broke my heart to know that you didn't love me. Ha! Ha!

"I would like to know what you think I married you for. You know I never did love you. Why, you poor insect, I married you for what I could get out of you. And I got it too. Now, didn't I, dear? You have always been a sucker in my estimation."

"The reason I lived with you in Chicago, was just to make you pay the rent I owed. I got the last dime you had and then I left you."

"You always thought you were a smart man. Too bad you couldn't see through that."

"Good-bye, lost love. Ha! Ha! Say, I think you belong in the nut-house. Please do not bother me with any more letters. Your loving wife, "VIRGINIA."

Most Famous River. Religion, history, and nature conspire to make the Jordan the most famous river of the earth. Across it the hosts of Israel were led into the Promised Land; in its waters the Christian rite of baptism had its birth; up and down its valley many civilizations in the morning of history rose and fell. Perhaps the strangest thing about this famous river is that none of the ancient wars supposed to have taken place below the level of the sea. It was not until 1874 that accurate measurements were made at the mouth of the river and found 1,293 feet below the Mediterranean, less than sixty miles away.

## CZAR AND CZAREVITCH REVIEWING COSSACKS



A splendid review of Cossack troops marked the czar's assuming of supreme command over his armies. Dressed in the uniform of the regiment, the "Little Father" of all the Russians and his son and heir reviewed the Cossack troops in the area of the fighting lines. They are seen here accompanied by one of the commanding officers.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION HOLD REGULAR MEETING

At the regular meeting of the County Board of Education this week a special election for district No. 5, Long Acre township, was presented. The board deferred action on same as it appeared to vary materially effect the surrounding districts and considerable objection was raised by the patrons so affected. Notice was given those objecting that the election would be allowed unless they availed themselves of the opportunity to vote the special tax.

A deed for a school site in district No. 2, Washington township, was presented but not accepted because it contained a provision that the school house would be used for religious purposes. The patrons of the school were given permission to move the old school house as soon as the terms of the deed were acceptable to the board.

The children of F. F. Taylor, Edward Paul and V. W. Daniels were given permission to attend in district No. 11, Bath township.

It was ordered that district No. 11, Bath township, should be put on the preferred list for an offset of \$250 from the building fund. The chairman of the high school committee at Aurora asked the board to pay the expense of equipping the high school building recently erected which will amount to between \$1,000 and \$1,200. This request was also placed on the preferred list to receive aid as soon as possible.

A petition for the division of district No. 12, Chocowinity township, was presented. As most of the signers of the petition were present and expressed a preference to have one large building erected in the center of the district, if such could be done, to having the district divided. No action was taken. An offer was made the board for the use of the Holiness church in said district for school purposes for the remainder of the school term and it was decided to put another teacher

in charge.

It appearing that the attendance at the Ransomville school was too large for two teachers, the committee was authorized to employ a third.

The employment of a teacher for three months for the school in the vicinity of Mr. Sanderson's, in district No. 6, Bath township, was authorized.

Mr. R. E. Tripp came before the board and requested some aid in defraying the expense of a mission school operated in district No. 13, Richland township. The board allowed \$50.00.

The following memorandum was ordered to be written in the minutes of the board:

"The bonds of the Aurora graded school district of \$1,000 each was this day delivered to the Board of Education of Beaufort county by the Board of County Commissioners, and by the Board of Education delivered to the Board of Trustees of the Aurora graded school, with instructions to sell the same at not less than par and to apply the proceeds accruing therefrom to the erection and equipment of school houses in said district."

An offset of \$175.21 was made district No. 4, Long Acre township, to be applied on building.

The board allowed F. K. Higgins \$10.55 for services rendered and money advanced in the erection of a school house in district No. 4, colored, Washington township.

District No. 14, Richland township, was allowed \$20.24 as offset for labor and money furnished by patrons in erection of a school building.

The board authorized a loan and approved an application for the loan for the small school district No. 8, Richland township, for \$1,500 from the state loan fund for building school houses.

No further business being brought up, the board adjourned.

## BARACA CLASS HELD MEETING

Regular Business Meeting Last Night. Expect Large Number at Class Tomorrow.

The N. E. Baraca class held their regular business meeting in the club rooms last night. Owing to the large number of members present, it was decided not to have the lecture by Mr. Daniel. This will be given at a later date, when a larger number may have an opportunity of hearing it.

The class will meet tomorrow morning at the usual hour. A large attendance of members is looked for. The new quarters for the class provide ample accommodations for many more members.

## ENTERTAINED AT BRIDGE

Mrs. Edmund Harding was hostess at a bridge party yesterday afternoon, which was given in honor of Mrs. Harry Harding, of South Carolina, who is visiting friends in the city. Mrs. E. K. Willis made high score and was awarded first prize. Delicious refreshments followed the games. Those present were Mrs. Harry Harding, Mrs. E. K. Willis, Miss Marcia Myers, Mrs. J. G. Blount, Mrs. S. C. Bragaw, Miss Jane Myers and Mrs. Calah Bell.

## 7,257 BALES WERE GINNED TO DEC. 1

Crop in Beaufort County Will Show Decrease Over 1914, According to Latest Report Made.

Up to December 1, 7,257 bales of cotton were ginned in Beaufort county, according to the report made by the cotton ginners.

The first month of school came to a close December 3. The enrollment for the month being forty-eight with an average daily attendance of 11 to 19.

There are 27 children in the district between the ages of 8 and 13 of whom have been enrolled. The average daily attendance was 19 to 19. We understand that it has been reported that our teachers are receiving pay for the month of school work. This is false. There is no charge whatever. Anyone in the district who is interested in the work and who desires to acquire more knowledge is urged to attend.

The school has been in progress three weeks. 18 men and boys have enrolled, only one of these being illiterate. We have classes in arithmetic, writing and spelling. Only those who attend realize what those who stay at home are losing. If

## BURLESQUE WAS FAIRLY GOOD

Only Fair-Sized Audience Greeted Performance of "Mc. Him and I" Last Night.

"Mc. Him and I" played to a fair-sized audience at the New Theatre last night. There was much to be desired in the acting of the principals, but the play was not without its good points. The scenery was the most beautiful that has been seen here this season and the work of the chorus was above the average. There was very little "smut" brought in. It can at least be said that the troupe tried hard to please.

From the gallery there came occasional hisses and during the last act a few rubes in the peanut stand tried to break up the show with obnoxious clapping. If they didn't like the show it was their privilege to leave but instead, it was evidently their desire to show the rest of the audience how extremely bright and clever they were and what daring devils they would be when they got started. Some of them probably even smoke cigarettes and purchase their handkerchiefs.

## TO REBUILD HOPEWELL WITH BRICK BUILDINGS

Petersburg, Va., Dec. 11.—At a mass meeting of residents of Hopewell today it was decided to ask Governor Stuart to permit the militia to remain in control of the town until a city or town charter can be granted the community.

It was also decided at the meeting, attended by over 1,000 people, that a commission should govern the city pending incorporation, provided Governor Stuart would and would confer such authority. The commission was elected at the meeting.

It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that while 30 days permits should be granted for the erection of temporary frame shelters on the rear of lots, only brick or concrete should be used in permanent buildings.

The work of relieving the suffering at Hopewell is being carried on by committees organized for the purpose by Mayor Cabanis of Petersburg and citizens of the city. Several carloads of foodstuffs have been sent to the burnt-out town to day. It is estimated that 500 or more of the destitute are being fed and lodged in Petersburg and the number is increasing.

Contributions to the semi-monthly pay fund were received from many who were unable to attend the meeting.

## EVERETT'S SCHOOL NOTES.

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## ALLIES HAVE BEEN DRIVEN FROM SERBIA

BERLIN REPORT STATES THAT BRITISH AND FRENCH ARMIES IN FULL RETREAT.

### 1,000 PRISONERS

Vienna Announces Capture of Over 1,000 Serbians and Montenegrins. Battle Being Waged Against the Italians.

London, Dec. 11.—Unofficial reports from Berlin say the Allies have entirely evacuated Serbian territory.

London press comment indicates that the British capital considers the situation of the allied armies in the Balkans as grave, following the recent clashes with the Bulgarians, which have resulted in the withdrawal of both the French and British lines.

Direct advice from Vienna are that the Central powers, according to expressions in authoritative circles, are confident of being able to meet successfully any move made by the Entente allies in the Balkans. The Teutonic empire have put no pressure upon Greece. It is declared their one wish being that the Balkans remain neutral.

Capture 1,000 Prisoners. Vienna announces the successful continuance of operations against both the Serbians and the Montenegrins with the capture of more than 1,000 prisoners.

Austrian troops have been heavily outnumbered by the Italians and have captured part of the Italian positions near Dolje, northwest of Tolmino, Vienna reports. Renewed attacks by General Cadorna's forces against the defenses of Gorizia have been fruitless, it is declared.

Offer Less Resistance. Constantinople announces that the British expeditionary force in Mesopotamia is offering less vigorous resistance to the Turkish attacks. British sorties have been repulsed with heavy losses, it is claimed. A recent British official announcement was made that reinforcements were arriving at the front for General Townshend's army, which retreated during the Tigris from Bardat after the battle of Ctesiphon.

## CREDIT GUIDES BEEN ISSUED

Have Been Delivered Among Local Subscribers. Contain Names of All Who Have "Charge" Accounts.

The Credit Experience Guide, containing the rating of persons in Beaufort, Pitt, Martin and Hyde counties, has been delivered to the various subscribers in the city. The book is extremely well gotten up and is an excellent piece of work. Supplements will be issued at specified times.

The 1915-16 guide, after Christmas, will be issued to all subscribers. It is hoped that many more will be secured.

There will be a party at Everett's school house, Thursday night, Dec. 16, for the benefit of the school. All are invited to attend and help a worthy cause.

## TODAY'S COTTON QUOTATIONS

TYPE 11.78 cents

SEED COTTON—\$4.75.

COTTON SEED—\$45.00.

### NEW THEATRE -T-O-N-I-G-H-T-

5 Reels—6  
Excellent Photoplays

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