

Sylvan Valley News

VOLUME—XX

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1915.

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DEATH OF R. A. WHITMIRE

Mr. Robert A. Whitmire, a conductor on the local freight, was killed while at work in the Rosman railroad yards on Thursday afternoon of last week.

A car loaded with leather had just been switched on the main line and was moving slowly toward a part of the train on the track. Mr. Whitmire was in front of this car preparing it for coupling, when he fell and was crushed by the moving wheels. Death followed in a short time.

Mr. Whitmire had been off duty since November, 1913, when his leg was broken in a wreck, until about ten days before his death. It is probable that the weakness of his injured leg caused the fall, whose results were fatal. It is said that on the morning of his death he related to some friends a dream of the night before, telling them he had dreamed of being killed by a train.

He was the son of the late Robert Whitmire and was born at Rosman, September 1, 1881. He was married to Miss Ora Batson of Calvert, December 18, 1904. Of this union, one child, his daughter Mary, survives him, the mother having died in 1908. He was married a second time about three years ago to Miss Bessie Wright of Jamstown, Pa., at that time residing in this county. The widow and two children, Robert and Eva, survive. Mr. Whitmire is also survived by his mother, Mrs. Sarah Whitmire of Rosman; two brothers, Carr and Pickens, the former of Brevard, the latter of Rosman; and four sisters, Mrs. C. L. Grazier and Mrs. Ellen Grazier of Rosman, Mrs. Z. V. Burchell of Brevard, Mrs. J. A. Cannon of Pickens, S. C.

The funeral took place on Sunday at Mount Moriah church at Calvert, where his first wife was buried. The sermon was preached by Rev. A. W. McDaniel. The little church was crowded to its utmost capacity and more people were on the grounds. The respect and esteem for Mr. Whitmire were manifested by this unusually large gathering of people, not only from the immediate neighborhood but from this town and elsewhere. He was a member of the Junior Order and the Order of Railway Conductors, and both these orders participated in the ceremonies. He was a man who had many warm friends, and besides being a trusted employee of the railroad, he was a good and patriotic citizen. His death was a loss to this community as well as a grief to his friends and relatives.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

Whereas, the Angel of Death, at the bidding of the Supreme Architect, has taken from this earth on Thursday, February 4th, Mr. R. A. Whitmire, a brother of our Brother Carr Whitmire. Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That we bow in humble submission to the will of the Almighty, recognizing in the dispensation of His mighty providence only goodness and mercy.

2. That in this death Brother Carr Whitmire has sustained a very great bereavement, and that we as members of Dunn's Rock Lodge No. 267, A. F. & A. M., deplore the severance of this family chain.

3. That we extend to our brother, and to the family of the deceased, our most sincere esteem and sympathy, and assure them that we always stand in readiness to lend a helping hand, should occasion require.

4. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Brother Carr Whitmire and the widow of the deceased, a copy spread upon the minutes of the lodge, and a copy furnished the Sylvan Valley News for publication.

C. M. DOYLE,
T. S. WOOD,
ORA L. JOYCE,
Committee.

The death of Brother Robert A. Whitmire, which brought pain to all within the wide circle of his ac-

quaintance, has brought pain in a peculiar degree to the hearts of all Juniors. No man has ever exemplified more truly, by his outward life, the teachings and traditions of Juniorism than Brother Whitmire.

Be it resolved by Transylvania Council No. 376, Jr. O. U. A. M.:

1. That in the death of Brother Whitmire the state has lost an honorable, upright and useful citizen, and Transylvania Council a loyal brother.

2. That while we mourn with genuine grief the loss of our departed brother, yet we cherish as a priceless heritage the memory and the inspiration of his upright life, his ardent patriotism, his unselfish devotion to the cause of truth, his unflinching fidelity to the call of duty.

3. Transylvania Council No. 376, Jr. O. U. A. M., extends to each member of the bereaved household its most sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

4. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the widow of the deceased brother, a copy to the Sylvan Valley News and a copy be incorporated in the minutes of the lodge.

PERRY GALLOWAY,
JOHN B. SIMMONS,
CHAS. L. SUTTONS,
Committee.

TRAGEDY AT MONTVALE

Early Saturday morning of last week news reached this place of the killing of Virgil Owen by John Reid in the Montvale section. The shooting took place on Friday afternoon near Reid's home, and the wounded man died there Saturday afternoon. Deputy Sheriff Harris set out for Montvale after getting the news, and met late Saturday afternoon a posse, who had arrested Reid and a man named Burrell. Mr. Harris brought the prisoners to Brevard Sunday morning.

Details of the tragedy will await the preliminary hearing before the recorder next Monday.

Virgil Owen was a young married man about twenty-one years of age, the son of W. J. Owen of Lake Toxaway.

RALLY DAY COMMITTEE

The committees of the various Sunday schools, appointed to make preliminary arrangements for a Sunday school rally day, met at the Methodist church last Sunday afternoon.

Tuesday, April 27th, was set by the committee for the rally day. The idea of having this celebration on or about the Fourth of July was opposed on the ground that such a date would designate the Grand school at Brevard Institute from any part in the exercises.

Appropriate exercises, such as singing, short talks, etc. will be held in one of the churches in the city, if desired, and there will be a hot dinner on the court house grounds. Marching by Sunday schools in procession will probably be a part of the day's program.

It was decided to include in the exercises all the Sunday schools in Brevard township. Visitors from other Sunday schools in the county are invited to attend.

A committee on program and general arrangements was appointed. This committee, of which Miss Doris Edwards was appointed chairman, consists of: Miss Doris Edwards, Miss B. T. Egerton, O. H. Trowbridge, from the Methodist church; Mr. Frazer, Mrs. Bettie Ward, Mrs. C. H. Trowbridge from Brevard Institute; Mrs. D. G. Ward, Mrs. O. L. Erwin, A. H. Caldwell, from the Episcopal church; Mrs. M. M. King, Miss Abbie Cantrell, A. B. Riley, from the Presbyterian church; Mrs. W. H. Duckworth, Mrs. Ida Bryant, Charles Jolley, from the Baptist church; Mrs. W. H. Allison, Mrs. Joe Johnson, M. J. Orr, from Oak Grove union Sunday school.

The committee is called to meet on Wednesday evening of next week at the Methodist church at 7:30 o'clock. All members of the various committees are urged to attend.

INTERRUPTED HONEY MOON

Last Tuesday the Register of deeds issued a marriage license to Oscar Welshans of Williamsport, Pa., and Cora Galloway of Shoal Creek. The marriage ceremony was immediately performed in the Register's office by Rev. W. M. Robbins, pastor of the Methodist church, in the presence of a few witnesses. The happy couple then went to the depot to take the 12:30 train.

But, in the mean time, the Sheriff was informed of the affair, and unfortunately for the groom, the Sheriff's memory is good. Oscar Welshans was remembered as a man who had appeared before the Recorder in some trial involving the existence of a wife at Rosman. An arrest was made just before the train started, and Welshans changed his trip to the county jail.

Mr. Hamlin, the Register, is quite depressed over the fact that the last two licenses issued by him have had separation as their aftermath.

SEVERAL SCHOOLS CLOSE

Several of the county public schools have finished their terms for the current scholastic year. The districts having no special tax are now all without school privileges, and some of the special tax schools have also closed.

The school at Little River, taught by Mr. A. P. Bell and Miss Sue Heath, closed several weeks ago. Although this is one of the largest schools in the county, and although the community is one of the most populous, the citizens have never yet voted upon themselves a special tax, and the children are out of school for seven or eight months in the year.

Quebec school, taught by Mr. C. L. Shuford and Miss Clessie Whitmire, closed on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Shuford has returned to his home at Fairview in Buncombe county.

Balston school, Mr. D. H. Pickens teacher, and Cedar Mountain school, Miss Tazze Parham, teacher, closed their doors recently for the year.

Old Toxaway school, taught by Miss Connie Randall, closes this week.

FLAG AND BIBLE PRESENTATION

The Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Transylvania Council Number 376, will on Sunday, February 28th, present to the Davidson River public school a Bible and a flag.

The program, which promises to be unusually interesting, is as follows:

1. Song—America.
 2. Prayer—Rev. C. M. Carpenter.
 3. Song—The Red, White and Blue.
 4. Address—The Origin of Juniorism, T. C. Henderson.
 5. Special Music (Male quartet).
 6. Presentation of Bible, E. C. Nall.
 7. Acceptance of Bible, Miss Julia Deaver.
 8. Special Music (Male quartet).
 9. Presentation of Flag, J. A. Johnson.
 10. Acceptance of Flag, Lowry C. Blakeley.
 11. Raising of Flag, Perry Galloway and W. M. Miller.
 12. Song—Star Spangled Banner.
 13. Closing Prayer—T. C. Henderson.
- Feb. 28th, 1915.

STRAIGHTENING CLAIMS

Mr. J. H. Smith of Canada, Jackson county, has been here for several days on business for the Brevard Land and Timber Company, which consists of Messrs. G. H. Smathers of Asheville, M. Buchanan and C. C. Cowan of Sylva. Mr. Smith has been looking into deeds and titles in the register's office, with a view to clearing from encumbrance the company's claims to several thousand acres of land in the western Gloucester section. Miss Correlia Osborne of Asheville, Mr. Smathers' secretary, has been assisting Mr. Smith by making typewritten copies of records.

TRANSYLVANIA ROAD LAW

H. B. 158, S. B. 181.

An act to better provide for the working and maintaining of the public roads in Transylvania county.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That the board of county commissioners of Transylvania county shall, in order for the proper construction, maintaining and amending the said roads of Transylvania county, at the time of levying general state and county taxes in each and every year levy a special tax on all the property subject to taxation under the state laws of North Carolina, of not less than fifteen cents nor greater than twenty-five cents on the hundred dollars worth of property; said taxes to be collected as other taxes, but to be kept separate on the tax books of said county, and to be set aside as a special road fund to be used by the township from which such tax is collected for maintaining, improving and amending the public roads, culverts and bridges of said township except as hereinafter provided. Provided the sheriff or tax collector collecting the said taxes shall only receive three per cent of the amount collected of said funds for collecting and paying over the same to the county treasurer, and the said treasurer shall only receive two per cent for paying out said fund.

Sec. 2. That all able-bodied males of Transylvania county between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except regularly ordained ministers of the gospel and residents of incorporated towns, shall be subject to public road duty, and shall work on the public roads of said county four days of eight hours each in each and every year, and at such times and places and in such manner as may be designated by the road overseer of the township in which said subject may reside, but said road subject shall not be required to work out of the section or district to which he has been assigned. The said township road overseer, or his authorized assistant overseer as hereinafter provided, shall give to each road subject three days notice by personal warning, or by leaving a printed or written notice at the house or residence of such road subject, specifying in said notice the time and place said road work is to be begun and performed, also designating in said notice the tool or implement with which said person shall be required to work. Provided that any road subject may in lieu of working four days on the public roads, pay to the said township overseer on or before the first day of April in each year, or the time when he is first warned, the sum of four dollars for the succeeding year, and shall receive from the overseer a receipt for his year's road duty, or may on or before the first day of April and October of each year pay to said overseer two dollars semi-annually in advance, for which payment the said overseer shall issue his receipt, and which receipt shall exempt said road subject from work during the half year covered by the receipt. But if any person subject to road duty under the provisions of this act shall fail or refuse upon demand of the overseer to make the half year payment in advance as above stated, then the entire yearly amount for which the road subject is liable under this act, shall become immediately due and collectable. Provided that any person physically unable to work the public roads may be exempt therefrom by order of the board of county commissioners.

Sec. 3. That any road subject who has been duly summoned and who, without legal excuse, fails to work on the said roads as summoned, or make the payments as provided for in the preceding section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be fined four dollars and the cost in every case in which he is convicted, or he may be sentenced to work on roads for each offense for a term not exceeding four days

and it shall be the duty of the said overseer to cause a warrant to issue for the arrest and trial of said defaulting road subject, and if any road overseer fail to perform his duty in this regard he shall also be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction be fined five dollars and the cost and shall be liable upon his bond for the time of the subject which was not worked out.

Sec. 4. That the several township road overseers duly and legally elected by the qualified voters of the several townships of Transylvania county at the general election held on November third, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and who have qualified and assumed the duties of their office under and by virtue of said election, all of which was in conformity with and in obedience to chapter seven hundred and nine of the public local laws of one thousand nine hundred and thirteen, shall each be the township road overseer of his respective township during the time for which he was elected as aforesaid, unless he be sooner removed for good and sufficient cause and according to law; and no provision of this act shall in any manner be held or construed so as to deprive the overseer aforesaid of the office to which he was elected on the date first above mentioned. The duty of the township road overseer aforesaid shall be to take charge of, look after and maintain, repair and to keep in repair all the public roads in the township in which he was elected. He shall in person, or by his assistant as provided in this act, summon the various hands in the said townships and work them on such roads therein to which they have been assigned, for at least three days (and in case of storms, froshets and washouts not over ten days) in each and every year subject to this provision for paying cash in lieu of such time as hereinafter designated, beginning the first day of April of each year. But before summoning the said hands as hereinafter provided, he shall divide the roads of his township into road districts and assign the hands to the same, the said hands to be assigned to that road district in which he nearest resides. And in order to more properly care for and maintain the public roads of the county, the overseer in each township is hereby authorized and empowered, if in his judgment the size and condition of his township and its roads require it, to appoint or designate one or more competent persons as assistant overseer and assign him permanently to whatever section of the township the best interests of the roads may require; said assistant overseer shall have power and authority to summon hands in this section to work the roads therein, and shall have supervision over them during such work, but in no case shall he receive or collect any money from any road subject who pays in lieu of work. And every thirty days he shall render to the township overseer a written sworn statement of the total number of road subjects in his district and the names of every person he has worked on the roads, and the number of days each has so worked. And the said assistant overseer shall receive as compensation one dollar and fifty cents per day when working five hands or more, and one dollar and twenty-five cents per day when working less than five and more than two, but shall not receive compensation when working less than three hands any one day. And the township road overseer shall in all respects be responsible on his bond for the acts and performance of his assistant overseer when discharging his duties aforesaid; and the said overseer shall be subject to removal by a majority of the board of the county commissioners for inefficiency, continued insobriety, wilful neglect of duty, or other good and lawful reasons, and if so removed the vacancy shall be filled by them until the succeeding general election when he shall be elected as hereinafter provided: To this end the qualified voters of each township in

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