The Courier
Only $1.50
Per Year

ITY COURIER

12 Pages
72 COLUMNS

OF FOREST CITY AND RUTHERFORD COUNTY

VOL. VIII—No. 7 | TH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOV. 26, 1925 | $1.50 Per Year In Advance

MR. R. K. HARRIS DIES AT HOME O HIS SON H

Prominent Citizen Of Seag and Member Of Promi nent Family.

Mr. R. K. Harris, prominent zen of Seagrove, Randolph cou died here suddenly Friday mornin 3 o'clock at the home of his son, M. W. Harris, where he and Mrs. H ris had been visiting for a few wee He had been in declining health nearly two years, suffering with an gina pectoris, which was the cause of his death.

Mr. Harris was 76 years old, being the oldest son of Captain Ransom Wood Harris, a widely known citizen of Randolph county a generation ago. Mr. Harris was born at the old Harris homestead on the Uwharrie river in Randolph and spent his boyhood on the farm. In later years he was connected with several different business enterprises at Hickory, and here. Retiring from business activities several years ago he returned to his native section to spend his last year. He was a member of the Methodist church and it has been said of him that he lived a life without a blot or blemish. It was given to few men to have the friends he had, for all who knew him were his friend.

Surviving are the widow and the following children, Arthur C. Harris, of Seagrove; Mrs. L. E. Fisher, of Asheville; F. W. Harris, of Hickory; E. G. Harris, of Charlotte; Mrs. J. D. Ledbetter, wife of the president of the National Bank, of Forest City and M. W. Harris, cashier of the National Bank.

Mr. Harris had a large connection of relatives throughout Guilford, Randolph and Davidson counties, the families being among the most prominent in that section of the State. Mrs. Henry C. Kearns, Sr., of High Point, is his oldest sister, other brothers and sisters are Mrs. M. K. Callum, of Greensboro, the late J. W. Harris, of High Point, Frank W. Harris, of Fayetteville, Mrs. R. L. White, of Conway, L. W. Harris, of Roanoke, Va., and R. F. Harris, of Carraway. Mrs. William D. Simmons, Jr., of High Point, is a granddaughter.

The funeral was held in the Methodist church at Hickory Saturday morning at 11 o'clock with Dr. W. R. Ware, pastor of the Methodist church here, officiating, assisted by Rev. Jordan of the Hickory church. Interment was at Hickory, where Mr. Harris resided for twenty-five years prior to returning to Randolph county a few years ago.

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES SPINDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Eugene E. Gillespie, D. D., Superintendent of Synod Missions with headquarters in Greensboro, will begin a series of evangelistic services at the Spindale Presbyterian church, Friday night, December 4. Miss Florence Howard will be in charge of the music and preliminary arrangements. Special prayer services will be held at the church, beginning Monday night, November 30.

Dr. Gillespie is a native of Greensboro and was for 20 years pastor of the Presbyterian church at York, S. C., where he was successful in building up a large congregation and one of the leading churches of South Carolina. He is a splendid and forceful preacher and evangelist. The people of York reluctantly gave him up for the larger field of work in which he is now engaged. His work for the causes of the Synod of North Carolina has been outstanding and elicited much favorable comment from the press of the State.

The churches of Forest City are cordially invited to co-operate in these services at Spindale.

The Blue Ridge Fox Hunters' Club will give their annual banquet in the Kiwanis Hall Friday evening, November 27th, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. All members are urged to be present with their wives and sweethearts and enjoy an evening of fun and a real meal of turkey and oysters.

OOL NEWS

Work of the rietta-Caro- hools.

24.—Under the di- Sane, Clegg, Whis- nillips the first num- al commencement ex- ven by the grammar e Henrietta elementary ding Saturday evening, 21, 1925 at 7:30.

rogram presented to a pack- se was especially in keeping e Thanksgiving season. A mu- playlet, "The Indian Princess," the leading feature of the en- ertainment. This brought out very clearly the familiar story of Captain John Smith and how he was saved from death at the hands of Chief Powhatan by the Indian Princess Pocahontas. The petite Pilgrim maidens, with their white collars and crisp caps, the knightly bearing of the English courtiers, and the excellent singing and dancing of the Indian Maidens, carried us back to the spirit of Colonial days.

Those deserving special mention were Earp Hicks as Captain John Smith, and Ethel Shires as Pocahontas.

This is test week for the seventh grade. Attendance is good and pupils are working hard. Last month we had two pupils, Reid Daniels and Cecil Neal, who averaged above ninety on eight subjects. The seventh grade challenges any grade in the high school to put up as many ninety per cent pupils as they, in the month beginning after Thanksgiving.

The eighth grade had their first public debate of the year in chapel Tuesday morning, Nov. 17. The query was: Resolved: that the moving picture theatre does more harm than good.

Affirmative	Negative
Nell Vassey	Jessie Harris
Pearle Randall	Solon Smart

The debate was very interesting since this subject is a timely one and a problem that must be solved by every community. We think that this first debate has created a spirit for debating in the classroom and espe-

(Continued on Page Four)

N. me the B p. m.

Mr. Bla the misfortune to ge his hand hurt in the mill last week.

Willard, the small son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Dixon, was hit by a car as he was returning from school one afternoon last week, but was not seriously hurt.

Mrs. Ada Shelton is spending some time with her Brother, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Putman, of Cliffside.

Mrs. Grady Lowery spent the week-end with relatives near Sunshine.

Mrs. Norris Padgett is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chapman, of Valley Falls, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Callahan, of Alexander, spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. John Callahan.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Biggerstaff and family visited in Cliffside Sunday.

Mr. Berry Green from near Sandy Mush spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Green on Haynes street.

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Wilkerson of Avondale spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wilkerson.

MUSIC DEPT. WOMAN'S CLUB MET FRIDAY

An especially interesting program was presented by the Music Department of the Woman's Club Friday afternoon. The subject was Southern folk songs, which is one of those musical programs that have a universal appeal.

The meeting was presided over by the chairman, Mrs. R. W. Minish.

Mrs. J. H. Thomas read an interesting and carefully prepared paper on Stephen C. Foster, the dearly loved writer of Southern melodies, who, though northern born, has so sympathetically interpreted the soul of the south. This paper was followed by a medley of southern songs by Foster, sung in a most pleasing way by Mesdames T. R. Padgett, R. P. Howes, W. R. Ware, W. A. Ayers, C. E. Alcock and Annie Ware, accompanied by Mrs. Hague Padgett.

Two other delightful selections were a solo, "Lindy Lou," by Billy Strickland, sung by Miss Ruth Meares and a piano duet, "Rustic Dance," by Mason, played by Mrs. E. O. Thomas and Mrs. R. W. Minish. Decidedly the most unique numbers on the program were the piano solo, "Turkey in the Straw," by an unknown composer, played by Miss Katherine Goggans and "The Water Boy," by Avery Robinson, sung by Mrs. Hague Padgett.

The interest of the meeting was greatly enhanced by the reading of several of the outstanding current events in the music world by Mrs. Frank R. Wilkins.

After the program a delectable salad course was served by the hostess, Mrs. Hague Padgett and Mrs. W. R. Ware, assisted by Miss Margaret Young and Mrs. Carpenter.

There will be a Thanksgiving service at Pleasant Grove Methodist church Thursday night, Nov. 26, at 7 p. m. Preaching by the pastor, Dr. W. R. Ware. Let everybody come and help make this a good service. It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord for all His benefits to the children of men—to us.

There will be no service at the ForestCity Methodist church next Sunday night. We will worship with our Presbyterian brethren. The pastor, Dr. W. R. Ware, will preach at Pleasant Grove in the morning.

J. V. VICKERS IS GIVEN 10 YEARS

Former Rutherford County Man Convicted On Circumstantial Evidence—Seeks New Trial.

The Charlotte Observer had the following account of the conviction of J. V. Vickers, former Rutherford county man:

The fine thread of circumstantial evidence which the state wound—fearfully, lest it break—around J. V. Vickers turned to stout steel bars at 6:30 o'clock last Friday evening and he was sentenced to serve 10 years in the state penitentiary at hard labor for the murder of Ellison Y. Rogers.

The jury had the case for an hour, returning a verdict of "guilty of murder in the second degree." The first ballot stood seven to five as between second degree murder and acquittal, the second ten to 2, and the third unanimous, one of the jurors said. They took the case at 5:20 o'clock in the afternoon.

The prosecution began Thursday with infinite caution to draw its thin, silken thread of circumstantial evidence around J. V. Vickers in an effort to send him to the electric chair on the charge of robbing and murdering Ellison Y. Rogers on the Tuckaseege road the morning of Thursday, October 8th.

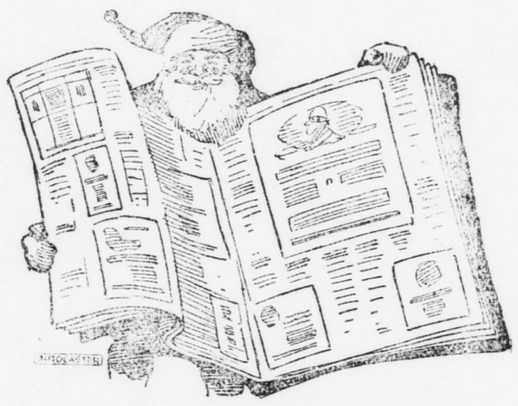
For each carefully calculated move on the part of the state the opposing lawyers made one of force and verbal eloquence. Protests and objections were frequent.

Vickers, a well-groomed young man of 33, sat with his lawyers and in care-free manner heard the testimony designed to convict him. He heard with evident enjoyment incongruous statements which his lawyers at times led state's witnesses to make. His wife, sober-eyed sat near him and took an unsmilin ginterest in the evidence. She is a bride of less than a year. Relatives from the Forest City vicinity sat in the court room.

The state theory is that Vickers induced Rogers to draw $700 from the Monroe bank, took him to a secluded spot on a Mecklenburg county road, killed him, took the money and rushed back to the city.

The defendant declares his inno-

(Continued on Page Four)



Going To Make Hay, Mr. Merchant?

This season is one of the most prosperous in years. The purse of the nation is full to overflowing and their hearts are charged with the Christmas spirit and the desire to buy.

Christmas lists are already made out and are bigger and longer than ever before. Shoppers are perplexed with the annual problem, "WHAT WILL I GIVE."

Anxiously they search the ads—seeking gift suggestions. If you have anything to sell, advertise it now for the big buying season is at hand. The sun is shining, Mr. Merchant! Advertise and make hay!

The Forest City Courier will carry your message into the homes of Rutherford county.

For the benefit of advertisers The Courier carries the most complete cut service of any country newspaper in the State.

Phone 58 and a representative will call and prepare your Christmas advertising.

UNION SERVICES AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Union Thanksgiving Service, Thursday, November 26, will be held at the Forest City Presbyterian church at 10 a. m., with Rev. William Black, D. D., preaching the sermon. Union choir will render special and appropriate music.

The usual sunrise service will be held earlier at the First Baptist church and the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian congregations will unite in the Union service at 10 o'clock.

The congregations of all the churches in Forest City are cordially invited to join in this service of thanksgiving and praise.

OAK GROVE NEWS

Ellenboro, R-2, Nov. 23.—Rev. Huston preached an interesting sermon at Oak Grove school house Sunday afternoon.

Mr. L. D. Wilkie and family spent Sunday at Mr. Joseph Blanton's.

Mr. Robert Biggerstaff and family spent Sunday at Mr. Joseph Biggerstaff's.

Miss Pearl Randall spent Saturday night with Miss Mary Randall.

Mrs. R. H. Biggerstaff and children visited Mr. T. E. Randall, Sunday.

Misses Aline Griffin and Geneva Harrill from Spindale, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Odell Harrill.

Misses Eugenia Randall and Lucile Webb visited Miss Mary Randall Sunday.

Messrs. Charles and Joe Dobbins from Rock Hill spent the week-end with Mr. Claude Dobbins.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Randall from Caroleen spent Sunday at Mr. J. T. Webb's.

Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Randall and little daughter, Catherine, spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Randall's mother, Mrs. Evie Hamrick near Ellenboro.

There will be a Thanksgiving program and a box supper at Oak Grove school house Thursday night.

Rev. J. N. Randall and family from Plateau, spent a few days last week in this community visiting relatives.

Mr. Davie Hawkins and family from Avondale visited his father, Mr. M. E. Hawkins, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Davis from near Race Path, spent Sunday at Mr. Willie Bailey's.

Mrs. Norman Hamrick from Caroleen and Mrs. Vardie Abernathy and children spent one day last week with Mrs. R. H. Biggerstaff.

LARGE CONGREGATIONS HEAR DR. BLACK

Two large congregations heard Dr. William Black and his singer, Mr. Burr, Sunday at the Presbyterian church.

In the morning the Methodist church choir and people rendered fine service and at night the First Baptist congregation filled the church until there was standing room only. This splendid co-operation is appreciated.

Dr. Black preached two exceptionally strong and impressive sermons: "What Is Your Life?" and "Where Art Thou?" The singing by the Methodist and Presbyterian choirs was enjoyed as were the duets by Messrs. Black and Burr.

Service will continue daily this week, through Sunday at 10 a. m. and 7 p. m. School will dismiss Wednesday and the children are urged to attend the service Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The public is cordially invited.

TWO-ACT PLAY AT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A two-act play, "The Windmill of Holland," will be given by the 6th and 7th grades at the Grammar School auditorium December 4 at 8 p. m.

An admission of 25c and 35c will be charged which will be used for the benefit of the library fund.

MT. PLEASANT OYSTER AND PIE SUPPER

There will be an oyster and pie supper at Mt. Pleasant school house Saturday night, Dec. 5, at 7:30 o'clock. The proceeds will be used to get a library for the school. Hot lunches will be served by the P.-T. A.

YOUTHFUL WITNESS BARES BAD CAREER

Walter Bridgeman and Bradford Wilson Held at Shelby For the Larceny of Automobile.

In recorder's court Thursday morning a youth, Bradford Wilson, of Forest City, told of a life of crime that is perhaps unequalled by any other 16-year-old boy in this section, says the Shelby Star. The rehearsal ranged from the larceny of automobiles to breaking in a swimming pool, an unheard of escapade here.

Wilson was used as a state's witness against his buddy, Walter (Buster) Bridgeman, of South Shelby, in connection with the larceny recently of a Hudson coach, the property of J. S. Willard. The automobile was taken from its parking place near the Princess theatre here and found the next day near Spartanburg, S. C., where it had been abandoned by the boys.

Got Three Cars.

According to Wilson the car was taken from its parking place by Bridgeman, who came to his home in Forest City, in the car and asked Wilson to accompany him. The car became hot on the trip to Spartanburg and they abandoned it near Cherokee Springs, Wilson said, after they thought it was out of oil. In Spartanburg they secured another car, a Buick, which Bridgeman said belonged to his brother, according to Wilson. At Gaffney they left the Buick, talked over taking a Nash and finally departed Gaffney for Shelby in a Ford roadster. Wilson says he dropped Bridgeman in South Shelby and drove the roadster on to a colored suburb at Forest City, where he left it. Three cars in two days was the haul of the two boys according to the youth.

Asked where he first met Bridgeman, Wilson replied: "In the Rutherford jail."

Both boys were in jail there for stealing cars, it is said, and while there Wilson testified that Bridgeman talked of getting other cars when they got out, and the first car was taken not long after they were freed.

At the end of his testimony Wilson was questioned by Solicitor Burrus and asked how many times he had been in trouble. The boy began his narrative by saying "I broke into the Farmers Hardware at Forest City night before last and got a bunch of junk." Questioning brought out the fact that the junk consisted of money, guns, cartridges and other supplies carried in a hardware store. Being questioned further, Wilson admitted that he had taken a car once before and was in jail about it, meeting Bridgeman while there. Using his memory to recall more of his past the boy stated that he had been in trouble once for fighting and on another occasion for breaking in a swimming pool, meaning the bath house where bathing suits were kept.

Bridgeman did not testify and at the conclusion of Wilson's testimony Solicitor Burrus asked that Wilson also be held, and Judge Mull ordered both boys returned to jail in default of a $300 bond each to Superior court.

Wilson told the court that he would not be prosecuted for entering the hardware store at Forest City, as he had informed the owner where the stolen articles were hidden, but it has been learned that he is wanted there when the local court gets through with him.

The witness contended that he did not know the Willard car had been stolen and that Bridgeman told him that it belonged to his brother. He first became suspicious, he said, when Bridgeman stopped somewhere down the South Carolina road, jumped out and hid in the briars while a car passed. However, he admitted driving both of the other cars and that he took the Gaffney roadster on with him to Forest City.

DR. JAMES COOPER AT RUTHERFORDTON

Dr. James Cooper, of New York, will lecture at Rutherfordton today, Nov. 26, at 2 p. m. at the Movie Theatre on "Birth Control." It is an interesting subject, handled by one who knows. Quite a number will be present to hear Dr. Cooper.