

CORONER'S JURY SAYS O. W. LANE WAS MURDERED

Insurance Companies May Investigate The Matter, Maybe, Moonshiners Did It

CARRIED LARGE INSURANCE

New Bern, July 24—Inquest into the death of Oscar W. Lane, prominent banker of the section, resulted tonight at Maysville in the coroner's jury verdict that he "came to his death from shot or shots by unknown hands, not by suicide." His body was found early Saturday morning in his car stuck in the mud off the Stella highway near Maysville. Further investigation may be made by the county or insurance companies but Dr. J. C. Bell, acting coroner, stated last night that so far as he had been able to ascertain the matter had been settled definitely and that it would never be known how Mr. Lane met his death. Large throngs of persons attended locally. The hearing lasted for about three and one-half hours.

The motive for a possible murder could not be learned. Fifty dollars in cash was found in the dead man's pockets untouched. One surmise in the section is that the residents of the vicinity might have thought him a revenue man killed him as an example. L. T. Gillett, of Maysville, and George Meadows, of that section, who were the last persons known to see Mr. Lane alive, kept to their story of how they had left him in the car for the night, when he refused to go with them to the Meadows house, after his car had become stuck in the mud off the Stella road.

Much evidence at the inquest pointed to the fact that suicide was impossible. This was on account of the position of the bullet, the fact that there were no powder burns on the head, and the disputed question as to whether the bullet entered from the right or left hand side of the lead. The right hand was much larger than that on the left side. Mr. Lane was a right-handed man, it was shown, and some parts of the skull were found two feet away on the seat. He was found in a reclining position with the revolver on his right leg and his right hand far removed on the automobile seat.

The paper signed before a notary in Maysville Friday proved to be only a lease on some land and had no bearing on the case, as had been thought by some persons. Evidence was brought out that Mr. Lane must have come to his death between 1 o'clock and daybreak. He had been dead for some time when found around 6 o'clock. On the coroner's jury were C. M. Mattox, E. B. Davison, S. M. Jenkins, W. S. Spencer, S. H. Waters and T. W. Collins.

New Bern, July 26—No new developments were reported today following the coroner's jury's verdict last night that Oscar W. Lane, prominent banker, met his death at the hands of some unknown murderer and not by self-inflicted wounds. His body was found in his car on a deserted mud road early Saturday morning near Maysville.

No clue has been discovered to the guilty party and no suspicion has been directed against any certain person or persons, it is stated. The consensus of opinion is that he was thought to be a revenue officer and was killed by moonshiners. The section is notorious as a whisky center. Illicit distillers in that region have been reported to maintain a patrol system.

County authorities have made no plans for a further investigation into the circumstances of the death. Officers stated that they did not know where to start and would probably not be able to learn further details of the murder. Investigations may be continued, however, by the family of the deceased, according to W. B. Blades, brother-in-law, who today admitted the possibility that they might personally sponsor detective work that would lead to arrest and conviction. It was admitted, however, that clues were uncertain.

Insurance companies may also probe deeper into the matter. The deceased carried large insurance policies in several companies. Some of these carried the double indemnity clause that would double the policy in the event of murder or accident. Street rumors were current today that perhaps at least one insurance company might contest the payment of the double policy and some talk was heard that the body might possibly be exhumed in an effort to get additional information about the cause of his death.

Defendants Submit In Police Court

Several cases were disposed of in Police Court Friday afternoon by Mayor Jones but as the defendants submitted to the charges against them for the most part, it did not take long to get through. The record follows: Ruth Harris, wife of Jim Harris who was recently convicted of violating the liquor laws, charged with having liquor in her possession for purpose of sale, admitted having the liquor and was bound over to Superior Court under a \$100 bond.

Will Lupton, disorderly conduct, fined \$1 and costs.

Odell Mason, disorderly conduct, fined \$1 and costs.

William Brown disorderly conduct, \$1 and costs.

Sterling Chadwick, speeding, \$1 and costs.

Harlowe Chapin and Christopher Jones no rear lights on car. Judgment suspended.

Two or three cases were continued until the next session of court.

CHEROKEE RURAL SCHOOLS MADE LARGE INCREASE

RALEIGH July 25—(INS)—Six hundred and 80 children were added to the total of the average daily attendance for the past year in Cherokee County Rural Schools, according to the report of Miss Elizabeth Smith, county superintendent of Public Welfare.

The average daily attendance for the year 1926-27 was 2,301, as compared with an average daily attendance of 1,621 for the preceding year.

This was regarded by school attendance officials as a remarkable record.

Baseball Fans Expect Some Exciting Games

With Kenly here today and tomorrow, and Clayton here the 5th and 6th of August local fans are assured of some good ball games. But the climax in perfect games of the national sport should be reached the 12 and 13th when the Fayetteville Highlanders are here for two games.

Fayetteville won the North Carolina amateur championship in 1926 and is bidding fair to repeat this year.

Kenly won the first half of the Central Carolina League, and the Clayton club is the champion of Johnson County.

Local moguls are trying to arrange a game with the New Bern Battery "D" team for Saturday, July 30th, right after the Kenly series.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED BY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Morehead City, July 22—A L. Stockton, of the Greensboro Daily News, was elected president; J. W. Noell, of the Roxboro Courier, vice-president, and Miss Beatrice Cobb, of the Morganton News-Herald was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Press association at the closing session of its annual convention here today.

Johnson Avery, editor of the Hickory Daily Record, was awarded the Separk prize of \$250 for having rendered the most outstanding public service during the past year.

Eric Rogers, of the Greensboro Daily Record, won second place. Leary W. Adams, a reporter for the Charlotte Observer, received the \$250 Separk award for the most meritorious writing of the year. Miss Virginia Terrell, of the Asheville Citizen, won second place in this event.

The Roxboro Courier was awarded the Walter Savory loving cup as being the outstanding weekly newspaper of North Carolina during the past year.

CHURCH NOTICE.

Revival services will be held at Straits M. E. Church South beginning Monday August 1st.

Everyone is invited to attend. Rev. R. E. Pittman of Mt. Olive, N. C., will do the preaching.

Mrs. J. B. Dickinson and children of Wilmington are here on a visit to Mrs. Dickinson's parents Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Duncan.

Mrs. W. T. Kennedy of Norfolk, is here on a visit to her parents Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Duncan.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Baird of Greensboro are here stopping at the Inlet Inn.

Dr. C. M. Walters of Burlington and son Charles are spending a few days at the Inlet Inn.

Messrs. K. W. Wright, J. P. Mason and T. A. Mason of Portsmouth, Va., and H. G. Griffin of Churchland who have been guests of the Inlet Inn for several days left yesterday.

COUNTY HOSPITAL ELECTION IS NEAR

On August 6th Public Will Decide Whether To Issue \$85,000 In Bonds Or Not

As the time draws nearer for the county hospital \$85,000 bond election the public appears to be getting more interested in it. There has been no open, active campaign made either for or against it but in some places registration for the election has been pretty heavy. Registration books closed last Saturday. The election will take place on the 6th of August.

The heaviest registration for the election took place in Morehead City where 1340 names were put on the books. According to reports sentiment there is favorable to the proposed bond issue for a hospital but it is said that there will be a good many votes there against the measure. In Beaufort 891 names were registered for the election.

Judging from street talk of this number there will be very few cast for the bonds. The News has not been able to get any figures as to the registration in the other precincts in the county but reports are that it was rather light in most of them. An Atlantic man told the News this week that considerable work is being done at Atlantic for the bonds but that a good many people there are opposed to the project.

Around Merrimon and in the Harlowe and Russell's Creek section sentiment seems to be lined up solidly against the bond issue. Reports are that Newport will give a majority against the bonds. The News has not heard how sentiment is in the other precincts in the county. Absentee votes will not be allowed in this election.

Persons who wish to vote in this election will have to go to the polls and put their ballots in the boxes. Those who stay away from the polls will not affect the election one way or another. It takes a majority of the votes cast to decide the matter.

CARTERET PUPILS READING BETTER

Tests Show Rural School Children Approach National Standards

On July 14th and 15th State Superintendent, A. T. Allen called an Elementary School Conference at Chapel Hill. North Carolina built up standard high schools first, and now the importance of the elementary school is being realized for a pupil must go through the elementary school before he can enter high school.

This annual conference brings together people who are especially interested in elementary education. It offers an opportunity for an exchange of ideas and brings before leaders from various parts of the state worthwhile things which have been done in other parts of the state.

One half day of the conference was devoted to rural supervision. Miss Margaret Gustin, Supervisor of Carteret County, gave a talk on "Improvement in Reading." Progress made in reading in Carteret County during the last three years was shown by statistics and charts. The progress made in Carteret County was compared with the progress made in ten supervised counties of North Carolina.

Because of the great number of laborers who have left the farms of France, farmers are installing modern agricultural machines as labor-savers.

Board Refuses Referendum On Sale Of Municipal Plant

At a meeting of the City Board of Commissioners Tuesday evening a conditional offer of \$100,000 for the city water and electric plant was turned down. The vote on the proposition stood three to two. Commissioners Chadwick, Mason and Whitehurst voted against the offer and Commissioners Hill and Potter voted for it.

The meeting Tuesday evening was called for the purpose of considering a proposal made by John L. Livers a capitalist of Charlottesville, Va. Mr. Livers was present as also was an associate of his Mr. Pearce of West Virginia. These gentlemen asked the board to call an election of the people to vote on the question of accepting or rejecting the offer for the plant. Mr. Livers has been to Beaufort several times before and has discussed the matter with members of the board and other citizens. Messrs Livers and Pearce offered to pay the expense of holding the election. They

read the figures from a recent audit and claimed that the plant was running behind. They said they would reduce the cost of electric current from 12 1-2 cents per kilowatt to ten cents and also said they would pay considerable taxes on the property. Furthermore they said they would improve the service. Commissioner Chadwick stated that he considered the plant worth \$200,000 and that the town had that much in it. Commissioner Hill said that the matter was one for the people to decide and he favored giving them a chance to vote on it. After the discussion Commissioner Whitehurst moved to reject the offer with the result stated above. Mr. Hill wanted to get the matter re-opened and to enable him to do so Messrs. Pearce and Livers then raised their offer to \$102,500 and a motion to call an election on this was offered by Commissioner Hill. This was defeated by the same vote as the original proposition.

OFFICERS FIND STOLEN MONEY

A Part Of Old Man's Hoard Found And Now He Can Sleep

Dunn, July 25—Harnett county officers last night succeeded in recovering \$4,885 of the \$14,200 stolen from a safe in the home of David H. Truelove near Dunn last Friday morning. Of the amount recovered \$4,300 was found buried under a log in Black river swamp and the remainder was found on Willie Eason, Dunn negro, when he was placed under arrest.

Eason took the officers to the place where he had buried the money. He also implicated John McLean and his two sons, John, Jr., and Willie, all negroes. These are now under arrest along with Eason.

The elder McLean and his son, Willie, were arrested in Black river swamp late this afternoon. Willie McLean offered resistance and whipped out a pistol according to the officers and himself was shot through two fingers of the right hand by Sheriff Kyle Matthews, a member of the posse which had been searching for the two negroes all day. His wound is not thought to be serious nature, however. Eason advised officers that Willie McLean had the major of the money stolen, though McLean has not yet admitted that he was connected with the robbery. He formerly was employed at the Truelove home and is thought by officers to have planned the robbery. Officers are hopeful of recovering most of the stolen money.

The victim of the robbery, now 81 years old, said today that he ate his first meal this morning since the robbery was discovered and that he took his first nap last night after being advised that a part of his life's earnings had been recovered.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS FOR CURRENT WEEK

Beaufort Realty Corp. to E. E. E. Wooten, 2 lots West Beaufort, for \$240.

L. Rosso to F. A. Blair, 2 lots West Beaufort, for \$10.

Bank of Beaufort, Mortgagee to C. R. Wheatly, part lot Beaufort for \$325.

Mart Lewis etals to Mrs. S. H. Overby, 1 lot Morehead City, for \$10.

Morehead Bluffs Inc. to Mrs. Sarah E. Smith, 2 lots Morehead Bluffs, for \$10.

J. M. Willis and wife to W. A. Ball, 12 acres Morehead Township for \$600.

BUILDING PROSPECTS GOOD IN NORTH CAROLINA

CHARLOTTE, July 27—(INS)—A \$25,000,000 increase in the building record of North Carolina this year over last year was predicted here today by V. P. Loftis, secretary of the state branch of the General Associated Contractors of America.

The increase is practically certain, Loftis declared, if contracts are let for projects already contemplated in the State.

"Things look good for the building industry during the coming months," he said.

AN UNUSUAL PEAR TREE.

WILMINGTON, July 25—(INS)—A pear tree that bears twice each year is claimed by Junius McCoy, of Wilmington.

The tree grows in the yard of his home on McRae Street.

The first crop, it was said, ripens about August 1, and the other in the autumn.

New Cafe Opened On Turner Street

A complete transformation in the appearance of the interior of the old postoffice building on Turner street was made when Mr. L. T. Mathis opened his cafe there last Saturday. For several years Mr. Mathis has conducted a restaurant in the wooden building next door to his present stand and has enjoyed a good patronage under the name of the Dixie Luncheonette.

Completely new fixtures were installed in the postoffice building which was painted and put in good condition. A partition was built across the rear of the room and this space is occupied by a nice sanitary kitchen.

The dining room is clean, cool and attractive in appearance. An electric sign will be erected on the front of the building. The new restaurant seems to be having a good business and many persons have been heard to express themselves as much pleased with it.

Equalization Board Was In Session Monday

The Board of County Commissioners sitting as an equalization board, held a meeting at the courthouse Monday. The object of the meeting was to hear property owners who were dissatisfied with the tax ratings of their property. Mr. R. Hugh Hill of Beaufort was among the number and he entered a strong protest on the valuation of the Hill land just east of Beaufort. He did not get any relief and notified the board that he would take an appeal to higher authorities. The minutes of the meeting had not been recorded in the minute book at 11 o'clock this morning (Thursday) and so the News is not able to give its readers much information as to what was done.

BEAUFORT BALL CLUB CONTINUES TO WIN

The Beaufort baseball team has added recently three games to its string of victories. Last Thursday the team mopped up with its old time rival Morehead City. The score that day was 9 to 0 in Beaufort's favor. Friday afternoon the boys tackled a pretty hard opponent, the Messic bunch. The winning streak continued though and the score was 8 to 2 with Beaufort holding the lead. Saturday they played Messic again which resulted in a score of 2 and 1 in favor of Beaufort. On Tuesday the team went over and played Morehead City on the home grounds. This time the score was 7 and 2 in favor of Beaufort.

Twenty-seven ladies and 52 men and boys from Franklin county made a farm tour through parts of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and into Washington during the week of July 11.

BOARD CONSIDERS WEALTHY ARE MATTERS

Some Persons Dropped From Poor List And Budget Is Reduced

A meeting of the Carteret county Board of Welfare was held Tuesday in the offices of Charles H. Bushall who is chairman of the board. Mrs. Ida H. Hall is the secretary to the board. Other members of the board are Miss Lillian Duncan of Beaufort and Mr. H. A. Joslyn of Morehead City.

The principal business considered by the Welfare Board Tuesday was a revision of the Outside Poor List. The budget for this list was considerably reduced for the year 1928. Four new applications were received by the board and rejected. Mrs. Hall made her report which described cases investigated by her and all of which were considered carefully by the board. It was suggested by Miss Duncan that all cases of charity in Beaufort and Morehead City should be referred to the local Associated Charities. This suggestion was approved.

Fourteen former grants of help were acted on unfavorably by the board and recommended to be stopped. Five were reduced and nineteen were left unchanged. Three families were selected for N. C. State Mothers' Aid. The board voted to continue a contribution of \$10 a year to the Children's Home Society of Greensboro. A widow who has two young children dependent upon her and needs help will be reported to a fraternal order with a request for aid. All suggestions and recommendations of the Welfare Board are subject to review by the Board of County Commissioners for final action.

CHURCH CHOIRS TO GIVE MUSICAL PROGRAM SUNDAY

A musical program is to be given at the First Baptist Church Sunday evening beginning at eight o'clock. It will be rendered by members of the choirs of the Baptist and Methodist churches. The numbers to be given are as follows:

Prelude—"Prelude"—Rachmani-noff—Glennie Paul.

Prayer—Hymn—Congregation.

Mixed quartette—Mary C. Paul, Lottie Tyler, U. E. Swann, G. M. Paul.

Scripture—Baritone Solo—"Face to Face"—H. Johnson—F. E. Hyde.

Announcements. Offering—Lillian Duncan, Piano. Soprano Solo—Selected—Mary C. Paul.

Anthem—Choir. Tenor Solo—G. M. Paul.

Vocal Duet—Maybelle Neal, Virginia Howe.

Tenor Solo—M. Leslie Davis. Violin Solo—"Forsaken"—R. W. Chron.

Soprano Solo—Jane Ray Allen. Male Quartette—Messrs. Davis, Paul, Swann, E. Davis.

Hymn—Congregation. Benediction—Postlude—Glennie Paul.

TIDE TABLE

Information as to the tides at Beaufort is given in this column. The figures are approximately correct. Some allowances must be made for variations in the wind and also with respect to the locality, that is whether near the inlet or at the heads of the estuaries.

High Tide Low Tide

Friday, July 29

8:24 A. M. 2:16 A. M.
8:46 P. M. 2:14 P. M.

Saturday, July 30

9:08 A. M. 2:55 A. M.
9:25 P. M. 2:58 P. M.

Sunday, July 31

9:50 A. M. 3:34 A. M.
10:05 P. M. 3:40 P. M.

Monday, August 1

10:33 A. M. 4:11 A. M.
10:43 P. M. 4:24 P. M.

Tuesday, August 2

11:05 A. M. 4:50 A. M.
11:17 P. M. 5:08 A. M.

Wednesday, August 3

11:33 A. M. 5:30 A. M.
12:02 A. M. 5:55 P. M.

Thursday, August 4

12:49 A. M. 6:12 A. M.
12:06 P. M. 6:46 P. M.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Williamson and Mrs. L. C. Harris of Tarboro are here guests of the Inlet Inn.