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Superior Court Tries Diamond Mystery Case

Frank Bullock Charged With Embezzlement and Larceny of More Than \$4,000 Worth of Diamond Jewelry; Case Likely Goes to Jury This Afternoon; Prosecution and Defense Testimony About Completed; Nettie Henry Has True Bill of First Degree Murder Preferred Against Her—She Will Probably Be Arraigned Tomorrow Morning

An optimistic outlook for the future was expressed in the charge to the grand jury by Judge Clayton Moore shortly after he convened the October term of Superior Court here Monday morning. This hopeful view was given at the conclusion of a hasty review of the economic transition of the past two or three years.

After the grand jury had been selected, a foreman chosen, and the body empanelled, Judge Moore began his charge with a short history of the grand jury system and its necessity to public welfare. He vigorously controverted the critics of the grand jury system who spasmodically try to bring about a reform of this mode of bringing law-breakers for trial into Superior Court.

Judge Moore tried to impress upon the mind of each individual grand juror the responsibility that rests upon his shoulders when he takes the oath to faithfully and solemnly perform the duties of a grand juror.

People here in North Carolina are as a whole better than in many other states, Judge Moore stated, and gave the absence of the deprecatory gangster to substantiate this viewpoint. He said that he believes the laws of the state are fairly well enforced, and that the rich and the poor are treated virtually equal under the laws.

Men should respect and honor the laws and should endeavor to have them enforced, Judge Moore told the grand jurors, for it is these set standards of society that preserve and protect civilization and permit individuals to accumulate worldly goods.

J. Carlisle Bell, of Newport, was selected foreman of the grand jury, and Herbert Forlaw, of Beaufort, was appointed special deputy to serve the grand jury.

The most significant case that has come up before Judge Moore for trial this term was that of **Frank Bullock**, who is charged with embezzlement and larceny of diamond jewelry valued variously from four to six thousand dollars and owned by Mrs. B. S. Sheppard, now of Farmville, formerly of Raleigh. This case was started shortly after court convened for the afternoon session Wednesday. Mrs. Sheppard and several character witnesses testified before the adjournment of the afternoon session.

Mr. Sheppard and a number of character witnesses gave their testimony this morning and the state rested. Mr. Bullock was put on the stand by the defense shortly after the beginning of the defense. Alfred Pickett, the bell hop who was working at the Cherry Hotel the night that the jewels were missing, told of what he knew concerning the case.

It was said that Mrs. Sheppard came to the Cherry Hotel in Morehead City at the instance of Mr. Cherry. When she arrived she found her husband had been on a drunken spree for about a week and that Mr. Cherry wanted her to nurse her husband, who was suffering from nervousness. Mrs. Sheppard testified that the night was a very hot one and that she and her husband went out several times in their car to get fresh air and that on one trip they bought a jar of whiskey and carried it back to the hotel.

When she left the hotel at about one o'clock in the early morning of June 29, 1932, she said she gave several diamond rings, a wedding ring and a diamond studded watch to Bullock at the desk for safe-keeping. Mr. Bullock agreed that he accepted these, put them in an envelope upon which he wrote Mrs. Sheppard's name and put the envelope into the cash box. Mr. Bullock stated that at Mr. Cherry's request, he had not kept the cash in the cash register or in the safe, because the safe was broken and the management was afraid that robbers might hold up the clerk and take the money from the cash register.

This cash box was placed in a small compartment beneath the telephone switchboard where there was less likelihood of robbers finding it, testified Mr. Bullock.

Testimony was offered that the only ones in the lobby of the hotel after the jewels were left with Mr. Bullock were the clerk, the bell hop and Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard. The bell hop came and went during the night and

TAXES TOO HIGH DOWELL ASSERTS

Present Tax Levy Is Confiscatory Merchants Association Secretary Says

(Special To The News)

RALEIGH, Oct. 18.—Democracy is likely to "consume itself" unless the thinking people of North Carolina assert themselves and demand that government give up some activities and materially reduce the present confiscatory tax levy, Willard L. Dowell, executive secretary of the N. C. Merchants Association, said today, in accepting a place on the Advisory Committee of the N. C. State Branch of the National Economy League.

Frank Page, State chairman, made the appointment. Mr. Dowell, representing several thousand merchants, said:

"The greatest period of delusive prosperity that this or any other nation ever experienced were the years intervening between 1914 and 1929. During that time nothing of a tangible nature had a sound basis of value. The inflated balloon floated on until reaching the saturation point, the bubble burst and our economic system was paralyzed.

"Individuals and business enterprises were forced to make drastic readjustments in their expenditures. Many kinds of emergency palliatives were devised, but the one sure specific for economic recovery has not been resorted to, and until all governmental officials—local, state and national—realize that boom income ended several years ago and that government must follow the example of private business in curtailing expenditures, we need not look for a return of normal conditions.

"Everything except taxes has been deflated. Government has not only maintained its former level of spending, but government costs have increased by leaps and bounds until in this year of depression, when dollars with the masses are as scarce as hen's teeth, the cost of government will be 15 per cent greater than it was four years ago when prosperity was at its height.

"The total cost of government—federal, state and local—in 1913 was \$2,919,000,000 and this year it is approximately \$15,000,000,000. In 1913 the per capita tax in this country was \$30.24 and today it is about \$120.00. In 1913 the total income of the United States was 34 billions, of which 6 per cent went for taxes and this year the income will hardly exceed 55 billions, of which 20 per cent will go for taxes.

"When one considers this tremendous increase in the cost of government, especially in the light of our present economic situation, he wonders if the predictions of such great students of democracy as Macaulay, Spencer and Voltaire, that democracy would 'consume itself' in many activities and their resultant costs, may come to pass. That is our trouble, too many unnecessary and costly governmental functions.

"We hear a great deal about government being responsive to the will of the people. Well, when government takes from us \$1 out of every \$5 we earn for the payment of taxes, it is time for thinking people everywhere to assert themselves and demand that government give up some of its activities and materially reduce the present confiscatory tax levy. When that is done, conditions will improve, not before."

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Mr. Rhodes is the son of Mrs. Fannie Davis Rhodes, formerly of Beaufort, and a nephew of Mrs. Sallie Shelton of Beaufort.

MIDDLE-AGED MAN DROWNS IN SOUND

Moore Gillikin Drowns Near Dog Island Saturday Evening; Body Not Recovered

While enroute from his home at Otway to the Brown's Inlet fishery, Moore Gillikin fell off the side of the boat about seven o'clock Saturday evening near Dog Island and was drowned, and at this writing his body has not been recovered by the Bogue Inlet Coast Guard crew or by private searching parties.

Mr. Gillikin had been in poor health for some little time. When he left home he told the two men with him, Ivey Gillikin and Bryant Gillikin, that he was not feeling well at all. Just before the fatal accident, he again told the men he was not feeling good and that one of his legs had become numb. A short while later he started around the cabin of the small craft, and before he had gone completely around it he threw up his arms and fell backwards into the water.

One of the men immediately threw a life-preserver overboard and stopped the boat. No trace could be found of the unfortunate man and after searching for some time they decided to go to the Bogue Inlet Coast Guard Station for aid. Since then the Coast Guardsmen and private parties have been unsuccessful in their attempts to recover the body. It is thought that Mr. Gillikin dropped dead when he fell into the water.

Moore Gillikin farmed during the spring and summer at his home at Otway, and usually fished during the fall at Brown's Inlet fishery. He was some thirty-eight or forty years of age. His wife, Mrs. Priscilla Gillikin, and nine children survive him. The children range in age from seventeen years down to two months, and all but the seventeen-year-old son are too young to work.

Little hope is held now for the recovery of the body until the body rises to the surface at the expiration of nine days.

Vouchers were mailed from the office of the County Board of Education last Friday which paid approximately \$14,000 teachers' janitors' and truck drivers' salaries of the rural schools for the first school month, which ended on that day, and vouchers which aggregated about \$3,500 were also mailed the teachers and other school employees of Beaufort and Morehead City for their services for the first month.

This was good news for the teachers and other employees, for the county owes the teachers for all of the two-month extended term of school last spring, with the exception of \$30 each. This was an event that has been greatly anticipated by the teachers since the opening of school a month ago.

Slipping as she descended from the east steps of her home Sunday evening, Mrs. C. R. Wheatly fell down the concrete steps and down on the concrete driveway, knocking her unconscious and at first thought to have injured her seriously. She was taken to the Potter Emergency Hospital and was X-rayed to see if any vertebrae in her spinal column had been injured, but the pictures disclosed no fractures. Mrs. Wheatly was removed to her home Monday evening and is now convalescing from her fall.

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NORTH CAROLINA HAS FEWER CARS BUT MORE TRUCKS

Sixteen Counties Have More Cars And 84 Have More Trucks

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

RALEIGH, Oct. 17.—Carteret county had 1,050 automobiles and 375 trucks in October 1, as compared with 1,075 automobiles and 350 trucks a year ago, and 1,000 automobiles and 325 trucks three months ago, according to the registration cards in the office of L. S. Harris, director of the Motor Vehicle Bureau. The county average is the State is 3,101 automobiles and 628 trucks, the records show.

Only 16 counties have more automobiles now than they had a year ago, one county has the same number and 83 have fewer than a year ago, while 84 counties have more motor trucks, two counties have the same number, and 14 counties have less than a year ago.

Catawba has the same number of automobiles as a year ago and Ashe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Dare, Gates, Graham, Haywood, Hyde, Jackson, McDowell, Macon, Madison, New Hanover, Orange have more automobiles than a year ago and the remaining 83 counties having fewer. On the other hand, two counties have the same number of trucks, Jones and Polk, and only 14 have fewer trucks than a year ago, including Alleghany, Anson, Duplin, Franklin, Johnston, Northampton, Pamlico, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Stokes, Swain and Washington.

The total number of motor vehicles registered in the State October 1 was 372,899, of which 310,131 were automobiles and 62,768 were trucks, as compared with 411,215 motor vehicles, 354,696 automobiles and 56,519 trucks a year ago. A decrease in automobiles is shown in the year of 44,565, while the increase in trucks in the same period was 6,249. Three months ago the automobiles registered numbered 284,051, which increased in three months by 26,080, and 54,477 trucks, which increased in three months by 8,291. On October 1 there were 34,371 more motor vehicles registered than three months before, due in part to the half-cost of plates which became effective after July 1.

Guilford led with 22,950 cars and 3,275 trucks October 1; Mecklenburg had 21,775 cars and 3,150 trucks; Forsyth, 16,050 cars and 2,775 trucks; Wake, 12,435 cars and 2,350 trucks; Buncombe 12,011 cars and 2,400 trucks, and Durham, 9,050 cars and 1,500 trucks the report of Director Harris shows.

Plans have been perfected for the revival services to begin at the First Baptist church Beaufort, Sunday, Oct. 23. The pastor, Rev. J. P. Harris has announced that Dr. Hugh A. Ellis, pastor of the First Baptist church, Henderson, N. C. will arrive Monday afternoon, Oct. 24th, to do the preaching in these services, and will remain here through the 3rd of November.

Mr. Ellis came to the pastorate of the Henderson church more than eight years ago from Canada. During these years he has had a most wonderful success as pastor of this excellent church. He is a man of very attractive personality and a pleasing speaker. His message will be appreciated by all who hear him during this series of meetings.

In the work of evangelism, Mr. Ellis has been very successful. With a true pastor's heart, he builds his evangelistic program with a view of strengthening the local church, helping his brother pastor and most of all magnify his Christ. The public is cordially invited to attend these services. The evening services will begin at 7:30. The hour for the day service has not been named but will be at a