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"Guilty" Says Jury In The Case Of J. M. Bolejack

Jury Returned Verdict at 3:20 This Afternoon Finding Bolejack Guilty of Murder in the First Degree—Had Killed His Wife.

The Jury Accompanied the Verdict With a Recommendation of Clemency—Judge Will Announce His Sentence Later.

MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE.

Guilty of murder in the first degree, with a recommendation of clemency, was the verdict brought in at 3:20 o'clock in the case of J. M. Bolejack, who shot and killed his wife on New Year's day.

The case of James N. Bolejack, charged with the murder of his wife at their home on North "Crevard" street on New Year's day and who has been on trial yesterday and today, was given to the jury today at 1 o'clock.

The jury in the case are: C. W. Douglas, J. A. Westmoreland, L. G. Bagley, W. H. Stuart, L. McGinn, S. L. Faulkner, W. W. Niles, T. Irwin, L. S. R. Byrum, R. I. Hilton, J. M. Renfrow and J. Walker Wilcox.

The jury returned their verdict after deliberation for several hours. The jury was told that he intended to take his own life just before he shot his wife and left a note to this effect. He intended, he said, to use the revolver he had for this purpose. The note, which was inscribed in his memorandum book, read as follows:

The Note. "Charlotte, Feb. 20, 1914. To the public my wife and daughter is the cause of my death. I want my friends to know that I have decent burial. I have insurance in the Metropolitan. I want Mr. James Porter to see that my boy, Howard, gets a good home and an education, and no one is to blame only my stepdaughter and I want the world to know that I took them from down in poverty. I could tell you lots, so good bye."

The spelling of the note was defective in some places. The note was found on Bolejack's person by Sergeant Farrington, of the police force, who arrested him and who stated that he also found on the defendant two bottles of lemon extract, and a small purse. These were offered in evidence.

The objection of the prosecution to the admission of the note halted the proceedings until the deposition of Mrs. Montooth, a neighbor of the Bolejacks, had been admitted and read. She told in the deposition of having seen Bolejack, on the morning of the shooting, acting in a peculiar manner and that she told her husband that morning that she believed Bolejack was going crazy.

At this point Mr. C. W. Tillett, Jr., attorney for the defendant, stated to the court that the defense of his client was insanity and that the relation with members of his family were introduced only to substantiate this contention.

Bolejack on the Stand. The prisoner, on the stand, said he was 63 years old. He said he had suffered a stroke of paralysis in his left side, and that he had received a laceration in his skull, and told also of a knife wound in his back. Both were claimed, were inflicted by the stepson, Sam Hill, four years ago, when he and his stepson had a fight. The defendant's testimony was interspersed with "I don't know" and "I don't remember" throughout.

He claimed he did not remember the shooting and the incidents leading up to it. He said for almost the last two years he had abstained from intoxicants, until a short while before the shooting, and that when he took drinks over he seemed to have a craving for drinking anything and everything he could get. He had taken a lot of lemon extract, Jamaica ginger and whiskey, he said, among other things. He claimed that he had been run away from his home by his family when he entered strenuous objections to the presence of a man named Harmon, who he said, was too familiar with his stepdaughter. The stepson, Sam Hill, and his wife, he claimed, were the ones who drove him away from his home.

MESSAGE TO MRS. BACON FROM BRYAN AND WILSON

By Associated Press. Macon, Ga., Feb. 19.—A message of sympathy and condolence from President Wilson and Secretary of State Bryan penned in the hand of the latter, was delivered to Mrs. A. O. Bacon, widow of the lamented senator, Wednesday night, shortly after the arrival of the funeral train in Macon.

The message was delivered in person by ex-Governor Joseph W. Folk of Missouri, solicitor of the state department, who was dispatched on the mission by the secretary of state. Former Governor Folk came with the committee of senators. He was accompanied to the Bacon residence by John T. Boitfailliet and E. W. Stetson. The message follows:

"I am glad to hear that you have been prevented by important public business from accompanying your husband's remains to Georgia. I have, at the president's direction, designated former Governor Folk, solicitor of the state department, to deliver to you a message of condolence and sympathy.

"During past year I have been thrown into intimate association with the senator and my affection for him grew as did my appreciation of his great ability, his tireless industry and his conscientious devotion to duty. He was a tower of strength to the executive department, as well as to the senate, and will be missed by all who are connected with the administration, especially by those who deal with foreign affairs.

"His death is a personal loss and I share your sorrow. But more soothing than any words must be the consolation that you find in the fact that he rendered a large, a conspicuous service to his country and won the respect and admiration of all who were fortunate enough to be brought into official relations with him.

"His life was rich in fruitage and crowned with that 'loving flavor' which is rather to be chosen than silver and gold. His good name and his wide extended fame are to you a sacred possession, and to his children and grandchildren a priceless heritage. Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM JENKINGS BRYAN, To Mrs. A. O. Bacon, Macon, Ga.

Special to The News. Raleigh, Feb. 19.—Officers brought Ernest Mitchell, colored, from Winston-Salem today to await trial here on the charge of criminal assault in House Creek township, this county. He was captured in Winston-Salem on a warrant sworn out by justice of the Peace M. J. Carlton here.

An amendment to the charter of the Hall Furniture Company, Spray, changes the name to the Wall Furniture Company. A. D. Wall is president of the corporation.

There are 164 building and loan associations in this state of which only 96 have made the regular annual reports to the commission of insurance in compliance with state statute. The commissioner says that examinations of the associations show that they are nearly all prospering well. There is upwards of ten millions of dollars invested in the associations. New associations are being formed at Dunn, Harnett county, and at Troy, Montgomery county.

The executive commission of the North Carolina Bar Association, at a meeting just held here, has selected Wrightsville Beach as the place for holding the next annual meeting on June 29 to July 1. The committee will now give special attention to the preparation of a program that will be one of the most attractive of the association ever had. The committee consists of A. W. McLean, Lumberton, T. W. Davis, Wilmington; Harry Skinner, Greenville; T. S. Rollins, Asheville; A. B. Andrews, Jr., and J. Crawford Biggs, Raleigh.

Mrs. John S. McKee is dead after a lingering illness. She died Tuesday night at the home of her husband, Dr. J. S. McKee. The funeral was held from the Church of the Good Shepherd this morning. The deceased was a daughter of the late Judge Thomas R. Purnell of the federal court. She is survived by her husband and a little son, also by two sisters, Mrs. Herbert Dreyer and Mrs. Robert Ridley and a brother, Mr. James McKee Purnell, all of Norfolk, Va.

ALASKAN ROAD BILL PASSES BOTH BRANCHES

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 19.—Administration leaders were confident today that before the end of the week President Wilson would sign the bill authorizing him to build a thousand miles of railroad from the treasury and in his own discretion to have the line operated by the government or leased to private contractors. The senate bill proposed a bond issue of \$10,000,000 to be redeemed out of Alaska's resources, to finance the project.

As passed by the house last night, 259 to 87, the bill would authorize the president to construct the railroad with \$35,000,000 to be appropriated from the treasury and in his own discretion to have the line operated by the government or leased to private contractors. The senate bill proposed a bond issue of \$10,000,000 to be redeemed out of Alaska's resources, to finance the project.

Sentiment in the senate is strong for the bond issue while in the house Representative Fitzgerald's proposal to have the money taken directly from the United States treasury was adopted by a vote of 88 to 87. Congress said they believed that no disagreement as to methods would long delay action.

RECONCILIATION OF M'LAURIN AND TILLMAN

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 19.—Reorganization of several senate committees may be necessary because of the death of Chairman Bacon of the foreign relations committee. A committee on committees is charged with looking after such matters but in a case as important as this a democratic caucus probably will be called to decide.

It is assumed that Senator Stone will succeed to the vacant chairmanship not only because he is the ranking member of the committee but because he is believed to desire the post. If Senator Stone should be appointed the committee on Indian affairs of which he is chairman would be left without a head. The ranking member of that committee is Senator Myers but he is chairman of the committee on public lands and might not care to change.

If he should not the next ranking member is Senator Ashurst. He is chairman of the committee on industrial exhibitions and probably would be glad to exchange. There would then have to be settled the question as to who should succeed him.

Senator Myers preferred to give up his present chairmanship for that of the committee on Indian affairs. Senator Smith, of Arizona, the ranking member of the public lands committee, probably would succeed him. He is now chairman of the committee on irrigation and reclamation of arid lands. Senator Lane is the ranking member of that committee and he is chairman of the committee on forest reservations and protection of game.

Almost any change suggested would necessitate so many other shifts that it is thought best to submit the entire subject for caucus adjustment.

AN UNBROKEN RECORD OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

"The New Dry Goods Store of J. B. Ivey & Co., will throw open its doors, in The New Springs Building, Monday, February 19th., and invites the general public to call and inspect a complete stock of Dry Goods bought at very low prices. The public will get the benefit of good goods at reasonable prices."

This was the announcement carried in THE CHARLOTTE NEWS, fifteen years ago today, by this local store. Since the opening day this store has not missed a daily issue of THE CHARLOTTE NEWS. Mr. J. B. Ivey, the head of this store, will tell you that he owes a large part of his success as one of Charlotte's leading merchants, to his advertising in THE CHARLOTTE NEWS.

DRAWING OF JURY IN JETTON CASE AT 2:30 O'CLOCK TODAY

One Hundred Special Veniremen Present at Opening of Court, But Selection of Jury Was Postponed Till 2:30 O'clock.

Thirteen Veniremen From Township No. 13—Senator John Sharpe Williams Expected Here as Character Witness.

The one hundred special veniremen, summoned to appear at the court house today to furnish a jury to try R. M. Jetton for the murder of Dr. W. H. Wooten, at Davidson on February 19th, were present when court was called to order this morning, but owing to the fact that the case of J. N. Bolejack was still unfinished, the selecting of the jury was put off until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

It is expected that it will take most of the afternoon to select the jury and it is the opinion of some that the task may not be finished before tomorrow morning, as there is a prospect that a great legal battle is impending and the attorneys for each side will be very careful in selecting jurors. One of the attorneys in the case expressed the opinion today that the case would not be concluded before next Monday night. Both sides are keeping their cards concealed, so to speak, and are carefully conferring with witnesses and giving every indication of intending to put up the best fight possible for their side of the case.

Thirteen Veniremen from Township Thirteen. Another coincidence has been pointed out in connection with the drawing of the special venire. This is the fact that thirteen of the veniremen were drawn from township No. 13, which is Morning Star township. The other unusual incident of the summoning of the venire was that which occurred when the names were being drawn from a box by a little 8-year-old boy, who drew out the names "R. M. Jetton."

John Sharp Williams to Be Here. One of the most interesting statements in connection with the case today is that Senator John Sharpe Williams, of Mississippi, will be present at the trial to testify as to the character of Mrs. Jetton, whose story of the tragedy at Davidson is to have such large influence in the outcome of the case. Senator Williams, it is said, is expected to arrive in the city tonight.

Dr. Robert W. Shipp, a well known physician of Austin, Texas, a brother of Mrs. Jetton, arrived in the city day before yesterday to help recant during the trial. Mr. W. T. Stewart, vice president of the Gulf and Ship Island Railway, and Mr. C. R. Kemp, claim agent of the same road, have also arrived in the city from Gulfport, Miss., the former home of Mrs. Jetton.

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RESERVE BANK COMMITTEE HARD AT WORK

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 19.—With the return here of the federal reserve organization committee after an extended tour, interest was revived today in the question of the location of the regional reserve banks. On this point Secretaries McAdoo and Houston were emphatic that there would be no decision until after they had thoroughly studied their data.

They were at their desks early today beaming with optimism regarding the financial situation of the country. They declared they found on their tour a practically unanimous sentiment among bankers and business men that the new currency law would benefit business conditions and furthermore, that the measure was a great step in advance.

Secretary McAdoo expressed the hope today that the new system would be in operation before next autumn but said that if it should not be the resources of the treasury would again be placed at the disposal of the business interests of the country.

COL. GOETHALS TO CONFER WITH PRESIDENT WILSON

By Associated Press. New York, Feb. 19.—The United Fruit steamer Mesapan, which reported yesterday that she had paused in her voyage to this port from Panama in an effort to aid the schooner Kinoo in trouble off Cape Hatteras, sent a wireless message today saying that she had given up the search for the schooner and would reach New York late today. Among the passengers is Col. George W. Goethals, who is coming to confer with President Wilson over permanent organization of the Panama canal zone.

HOUSE PASSES WILEY PRIMARY REFORM BILL

By Associated Press. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 19.—The Wiley primary reform bill, taken up after a similar measure from the house had been killed in the house by a tie vote, passed the house today and was sent to the senate. The Wiley bill provides practically the same means of regulating primary elections as the senate bill did and contains a provision that voters must be registered in duplicate books, which is designed to prevent "repeating."

SIMMONS AND OVERMAN TO SUPPORT WILSON

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson pressed further for repeal of the exemption clause of the Panama canal act in conferences today with congressmen. He talked with Senator Kern, who said afterward that the senate fires would dispose of the question so as to be able to make clear to their constituents that international circumstances had arisen requiring a change.

Although Mr. Kern voted for exemption, he said today the president had told him of various international phases of the question which were not before the senate when the Panama canal act was passed. Friends of the administration claim he will be among the administration supporters.

House leaders, it was understood today, desire some announcement or message by the president before reversing themselves on the question so as to be able to make clear to their constituents that international circumstances had arisen requiring a change.

Representative Underwood, it is understood while still believing in exemption, will not organize any opposition to the president in the house. Senators Simmons and Overman talked with the president and although both voted for the exemption, they said they would change their positions because they believed foreign policy required it. Senator Shively of Indiana took the same stand.

WIFE OF ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON DEAD. Santa Barbara, Cal., Feb. 19.—Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson, widow of the famous novelist, died of apoplexy at her home in Montecito yesterday.

President To Name Hammer District Attorney For West

HOME PEOPLE PAY TRIBUTE TO BACON'S MEMORY

By Associated Press. Macon, Ga., Feb. 19.—Thousands of his home people paid their final tribute and honor to Senator Augustus O. Bacon, Georgia's senior senator, by attending his funeral services this morning despite a heavy penetrating rain which started early in the morning and continued throughout the services at the grave.

The final tribute to the Georgia senator was brief though impressive. The services were held at Christ's Episcopal church, Rev. John S. Bunting officiated. Headed by a procession more than a mile in length in which were representatives of the nation, state and those who admired him in Macon, the body was moved to Rose Hill cemetery.

There by the placid waters of the Ocmulgee river, and in a grave next to where lies the Georgia senator's eldest son, Augustus, Jr., the flower bed of honor was lowered to its final resting place.

Macon lodge of Masons, of which Senator Bacon had been a member for 40 years, said the last rites. A few minutes later, the procession resumed its sorrowful journey back to the city.

Senator Bacon was unusual. Every Senator Bacon was unusual. Every school, their city hall and practically all business establishments suspended during the hour of the funeral.

Heading the funeral procession this morning was a platoon of Macon police followed by a military detail composed of members of the Hussars, volunteers, and Floyd Rifles. Macon's three militia organizations.

Mayor Bridges Smith, of this city, and members of the city council followed in carriages and automobiles. Twenty members of the Macon Bar Association were next in order. Confederate veterans who had obeyed the commands of the senator in the sectional war, a half hundred in number, were next in line.

Ten United States senators and the Georgia delegation in the house appointed as a committee from Washington to accompany the body on a special train from Washington to Macon, next in line sat silently with bowed heads.

Governor Slaton, of Georgia, and his staff followed preceding the pall bearers chosen from associates of Senator Bacon in Macon. The pall bearers were Roland Ellis, Minter Wimberley, R. C. Jordan, Emory Winslip, L. P. Hillyer, John T. Boitfailliet, Curtis Nottingham and Wallace Miller, all of Macon.

Several hundred Masons followed in carriages. The hearse preceded the family carriages which concluded the procession.

WILL RUSH DECISION ON RATE INCREASE

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 19.—Decision by the interstate commerce commission on their proposed freight rate increase is expected to be reached probably within three months and certainly before the commission adjourns for its summer recess on July 1. This announcement substantially was made by Commissioner Harlan today.

After Fully Going Into All The Facts in the Case President Assures Senators Simmons and Overman Today That he Will Name Hammer.

Special to The News. Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Hon. William C. Hammer of Asheville, is to be appointed United States district attorney for the Western judicial circuit with as little delay as possible. This confirms statements continually made in these dispatches since the controversy began.

President Wilson has already directed Attorney General McReynolds to prepare papers for Hammer's nomination. He so advised Senator's Overman and Simmons, who called on him to discuss the matter this morning. Senator Overman arranged the appointment with the president after he was advised by Mr. McReynolds yesterday that the attorney general had laid all the papers in the case before the president and discussed the matter fully.

The purport of what President Wilson told the senators today was as follows: "Hammer was indiscreet in making the affidavit he did assailing a woman's moral character in an effort to prevent the appointment of Auman as postmaster at Asheville, and for this he should be criticized. But because of this one ill-considered act he should not be debarred from appointment in view of his otherwise exemplary life and long, good character. Despite his conduct in the Auman controversy he is strongly endorsed by the bar of North Carolina and his appointment is urged by almost all the congressmen and two senators. Therefore, I have directed Attorney General McReynolds to appoint Hammer as soon as possible."

It is expected Hammer will be nominated tomorrow and immediately confirmed as any charges carried to the senate against him would be dismissed by the personal investigation made by Mr. McReynolds and the president.

HEAVY DOWNPOUR OF RAIN DOES GREAT DAMAGE

By Associated Press. Los Angeles, Feb. 19.—Southern California was food bound today by a downpour that started at midnight Tuesday and yielded from six to eight inches of rain in the thirty-two hours ending at 8 a. m. today.

Railroad traffic was demoralized. In the cities the streets were turned into mill races. Storm drains were overtaxed and irrigation canals widened into lakes.

The storm brought a recurrence of flood conditions that attended the rainfall of a month ago. Bridges were torn away. Throughout the citrus belt washouts blocked trains.

In some sections of Los Angeles streets were under ten feet of water for a brief period. Fire engines were requisitioned to pump out the flooded basements of several large buildings. One fatality was reported.

One telegraph company reported today that 75 per cent of its wires were useless. Arizona was virtually cut off from wire communication.

Retaining walls at various points in the foothill region of the orange growing section collapsed and sent floods swirling through the orchards, inflicting great damage.

Several houses collapsed in Los Angeles and in many neighborhoods people used boats to navigate the streets.

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MANY HURT IN STREET CAR WRECK

EVERY CAR LEFT RAILS—FEW HURT