

# CHINA GROVE RECORD

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THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

E. L. Peeler,

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## TRUSTEES VOTE UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT DUKE OFFER

Old College, Established in 1838, Becomes Integral Part of Great University.

Durham, Dec. 29.—Duke university came into being officially here today. Twenty-nine members of the board of trustees of Trinity college, being all of the members with the exception of James B. Duke himself, voted in favor of acceptance of the princely offer of Mr. Duke, and when the meeting adjourned at 12:30 o'clock after deliberation of a little over one hour, Trinity college had become a part of what will doubtless be one of the greatest universities in the country.

It was the realization of the fondest dreams of the officials of the institution.

It was an enthusiastic group of trustees which emanated from the office of President William P. Few, after the momentous meeting. The proposition offered by the multimillionaire philanthropist, that should Trinity care to change its name to Duke university it would receive a gift of \$4,000,000 at once and a handsome annual income of 32 percent of the income each year from a \$40,000,000 trust fund, was found good, splendid, in fact. There was not the least hesitancy on the part of any one.

"It is the happiest moment of my life," said Professor R. L. Flowers, secretary-treasurer of the institution. "Most of my boyhood dreams have failed to come true. But this is one of my greatest which has been fulfilled."

"It was done in a very few minutes," commented Joseph G. Brown, of Raleigh, chairman of the board of trustees, in a brief speech at the Rotary luncheon, which was given here at 1 o'clock, in honor of the trustees. "I believe that the action of the trustees in accepting this wonderful gift will be accepted as the thing to have done by the people of the state and by the country in general. When people come to Raleigh asked me if we were praying over the proposition, I told them 'Yes,' and 'Buck Duke is drawing plans.'"

An ovation was accorded President Few when he was introduced. He stated, with more emphasis than he has ever been known to show before, that Trinity was not lost but that it would remain as an integral part of the university. He asserted that, since a four-year college of arts and sciences is the heart of every great university, Trinity would remain as such.

Many of the trustees removed the points from their fountain pens which had been used in signing the resolutions, stating joyfully that they would keep them as precious souvenirs.

Duke university, which was established today, will in reality be a continuation of the little institution established in the northwestern portion of Randolph county back in 1838. It will include a fully equipped medical school, which may rival John Hopkins; law school, a school of engineering, women's college, and school of religious training. The trustees will be given a free hand.

By changing the name of Trinity the trustees accepted the terms of the \$40,000,000 trust fund established by James B. Duke, power and tobacco magnate, under which the new university will receive not to exceed \$5,000,000 for building purposes and 32 percent of the income of the trust fund.

The board passed a resolution accepting all terms of proposition made by Mr. Duke to establish Duke university at Trinity.

## JUDGE BARS KLAN QUESTION TO JUROR

Tuscola, Ill.—When State's Attorney Coffin, of Douglas county, this state, asked of a prospective juror whether or not he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, a small riot was precipitated.

The trouble arose during the selection of a jury for the trial of three men for murder. The attorney for the defense immediately jumped to his feet and interposed objections. County Judge F. H. Boggs sustained the objection, stating that the question as to any juror's fraternal affiliations was improper and outside the law. He also cautioned the state's attorney that persistence in asking this question of other jurors would prejudice the state's side of the case.

READ THE WATCHMAN

## 33 ENHANCED BODIES IN HOBART SCHOOL FIRE

Wires Over Windows Trips the Children in Burning Building.

Hobart, Dec. 26.—All of the 33 victims of the fire which destroyed the school house during a Christmas eve entertainment having been identified the people of the Babb's Switch settlement today set about the sad work of burial. Plans for using a common grave were at first considered when it appeared that identification of all bodies would be impossible were abandoned when the identity of the last victim was established.

Joint funeral services for 16 of the dead will be followed this afternoon by burial in individual graves. A pastor of the Presbyterian church will conduct the services.

The remaining victims will be buried tomorrow. Twenty persons still are in hospitals. All have an even chance for recovery. A committee of Hobart citizens has been appointed by the mayor to care for the children. A movement is underway to raise a monument for those killed. Authorities said they expected to take no action in investigating the fire. Wigg setting which had been placed over the school window held children in the building and prevented the escape of many.

The door was the only exit. The fire started from a candle on a Christmas tree.

Hobart, Dec. 25.—With the identification of the last victim established, the re-checked death list in the Christmas eve fire at the Babb's Switch rural school, stood at 33 tonight. Twenty injured persons are still confined in two hospitals. One is expected to die and two others are in a critical condition. Funeral services for 16 of the dead will be held tomorrow.

With 32 bodies, most of them burned beyond recognition, lying in buildings, and 27 others listed as missing as a result of a Christmas eve fire at the district school house at Babb's Switch seven miles from here, Hobart citizens tonight were continuing their efforts to identify the dead.

At a mass meeting today, called by Mayor F. E. Gillespie, committees were named and the relief work was going forward systematically.

It has been decided to bury all the unidentified in one large grave in the Hobart cemetery and late today a crew of men broke the snow that blanketed the burial ground to throw up a long trench of earth.

Early tonight only ten of the dead had been identified, despite the fact that the morgue was early thrown open to the public. A steady procession of grief-stricken relatives filled all day long between the shrouded forms, but so terribly had they been burned that it was impossible in most cases to mark the features of loved ones.

Among those who have been recognized is the family of T. C. Coffey, a farmer living near the Babb's Switch school. Six bodies, the father, mother and four little forms, have been placed to themselves. Survivors tell a heart rending story of how the family, standing in the center of the blazing schoolroom, every means of escape cut off, threw their arms about one another and in a last gesture of devotion fell together into the inferno as blazing rafters loosed from the roof struck them down. Amid the awful confusion of the scene survivors say they were struck by the placidity with which the Coffey family met death.

There, too, in a place apart, is the body of Mrs. Florence Hill, teacher, at the school, who might have escaped had she not tarried in a futile effort to find some avenue of escape for the little charges that were hers.

## ARCHITECTS WORKING ON JUNIOR ORPHANS' HOME

High Point, Dec. 23.—Architects of this city are working on the final plans for five of the buildings to be erected at Lexington as the National Junior Order Orphans' Home, it has been announced here. The National Council of the J. O. U. A. M. and the North Carolina State Department of that fraternity are co-operating in the erection of the home.

The first payment by the North Carolina department to the funds for the home was made some weeks ago, it was said, and other funds are expected from this state soon.

## CHILD IS SHOT WHILE SKATING

Dies in Street From Effect of Wound Through Heart.

Martha Louise Jones, 11-year-old daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Peyton M. Jones, of South Hills street, Salisbury, was shot and almost instantly killed about 6 o'clock Saturday evening, while skating on West Elm street.

The child's parents were spending the evening at Concord and she was to spend the night at M. L. Gaunt's neighbor. In company with Phillips Gaunt, aged nine, Melvin Gaunt, aged seven, and Luther Wayne Saffrit, aged eleven, Martha Louise was skating down Elm street shortly after dark. Suddenly she fell, but almost instantly arose and then, with a statement that she felt sick, she fell again and became unconscious and died.

She was taken into J. A. Sides' home and later the body was removed to the home of the child's grandfather, J. A. Wiley, on South Jackson. It was thought that in the fall a blood vessel had burst, but later in the night when an undertaker went to prepare the body for burial, he discovered a bullet hole near the left shoulder. Investigation disclosed that a bullet had passed through the heart and struck a rib on the right side.

The children who were with Martha Louise say they heard something like a big fire cracker explode when she fell. The father of the dead girl is yard-conductor for the Southern at Spencer.

Coroner's inquest into the death of the little girl found that she died because of "gross carelessness and wanton indifference in the handling of firearms."

The jury viewed the body of the girl and also visited the scene of the tragedy. It was found that some random shooting had been done by some boys in that vicinity on Friday night, but no positive evidence as to the guilty party was found, but very suspicious points strongly toward a rifle to go hunting.

The funeral was held Monday, largely attended by relatives and friend of the family.

## MORE RAISED ON LESS ACREAGE

North Carolina Gains \$4,000,000 In Small Grain Values.

North Carolina farmers realized \$4,000,000 more on their small grains this year than in 1923, according to the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation, which reports that the national increase in grain values amount to \$550,000,000.

The half million bushel increase in the North Carolina wheat crop this year brought the value up to \$10,250,000 as compared with \$7,500,000 of 1923. The oat crop of this state this year is up to 6 million bushels as compared to the 5 million bushels with the result that farmers will have taken in 5 million dollars on this crop as compared with 3 1-2 millions the year before.

The yield per acre on corn in North Carolina the report states, dropped to 14.9 bushels per acre and the normal production of 60,000,000 bushels dropped off to 38,000,000 bushels this year. The wet days, on the other hand, were a great help to the wheat and oats production, the former rising to 12-1 bushels per acre as compared with 11.1 the year before, and the latter to 25.2 from 22 in 1923. The profit per bushel of wheat this year was 22 cents where a loss of 34 cents was taken last year and a 11 cent profit in oats for the 18 cent loss of the preceding year.

The increased yield per acre of small grain and the increased price per bushel on all grains has aided materially in restoring the farmer to a better financial basis, the foundation report concludes. The higher grain prices have resulted in higher live stock prices and this has brought a new vitality to agriculture.

## ROBERT WATSON, SHOT BY MILLER, LEAVES HOSPITAL

Robert Watson, of Spencer, who was shot by Robert Miller at the latter's home, the old club house, on the plank road, near the city, about two weeks ago, was able to leave the Charlotte sanatorium Saturday. The report of the incident indicated that Watson was drinking and having trouble with members of the household. Miller is still in jail in default of a \$200 bond.—Charlotte Observer.

## MAYOR OF HENDERSONVILLE SEEKS SAFETY IN FLIGHT

Bonnie Brooks First Several Times At Man Caught Paying Attention to His Wife.

Ashville, Dec. 29.—Hendersonville is all agog today over the sensational departure of its mayor, Sam Y. Bryson, to Asheville, under the protection of W. H. Powers, chief of police, following a personal difficulty Saturday night with Bonnie Brooks, a barber, in which Brooks is said to have "shot three times" at the mayor.

The shooting occurred near the Brooks home on Fourth avenue as Mayor Bryson was said to have been leaving the neighborhood in a hurry. None of the shots took effect, and the mayor is now in Asheville, where it is stated he is registered at a hotel under an assumed name, with the Hendersonville chief of police still with him.

It was declared today that as a measure of the shooting, attorneys for Mr. Brooks will probably file two suits in the Henderson county superior court against Mayor Bryson, one for alienation of Mrs. Brooks' affections and another for divorce in behalf of her husband.

It was declared that the mayor will probably tender his resignation to the city council, but his resignation has not been received yet, and Dr. W. R. Kline is acting mayor in the absence of Mayor Bryson.

Attorneys for Bryson made an effort to settle the case but failed. It is understood that Brooks has already left his wife, and will ask for the custody of his children.

Bryson was elected mayor of Hendersonville two years ago, after being defeated for the Democratic nomination and making the race on the independent ticket. He served for eight years as postmaster under the Wilson administration, and has been prominent in the business life of Hendersonville.

Mr. Bryson seems deeply affected by the tragedy that has invaded two lives and several children.

Bryson was an acknowledged leader, and his resignation will bring an active career to a close.

Details of the manner in which Brooks found the mayor in his home are lacking, as the former has declined to discuss the case.

Mr. Bryson left Hendersonville early Sunday morning, and called up his attorney as soon as he reached the city.

## COMMISSION CONDUCTS HEARING AT SALISBURY

Will Locate Underpass and Fix Time of Construction Without Delay.

The corporation commission, with all members present, held a hearing in the matter of an underpass between Spencer and East Spencer in Salisbury Monday. The Southern railway, through officials, offered a suggestion to build an overpass a thousand feet further out than the point suggested for the underpass, as point for discussion and perhaps compromise.

The commission indicated that it had no power to enter into anything by way of suggestion or compromise, but must act under the law, locating the underpass and fixing the time for its construction, intimating that this would be done upon return to Raleigh.

The legislature of 1923 passed an act requiring the road to build the underpass to remove the menacing situation now existing at the crossing where the station now stands. Mayor Bueck led the citizens interested in putting the underpass through as planned and provided by legislative enactment.

Several officials of the road and local officials were present at the hearing, as were a number of people from Spencer and East Spencer.

## FIREMEN PROMOTED TO BE SOUTHERN ENGINEERS

Coming as a sort of Christmas present for a number of locomotive firemen in the service of the Southern at Spencer is a promotion to engineer. The final examinations were held last week and the promotions announced effective at once. The new engineers include Clyde E. Andrews, John Shields, P. D. Bradburn and V. V. Sykes, all well known in Spencer. They have been firemen on the Danville division for a number of years and stand high in the service. Engineer Clyde Andrews "took his first run" out, a through freight for the Cameron yards at Alexandria.

## BOOTLEG RING GIVEN WARNING BY KLANSMEN

Person Who Exposed Law Violators Punished by Klan.

Weehawken, N. J.—"Lay off promoting this so-called 'Fighting Ring'." We, as loyal citizens of Hudson county, are behind this exposure and we will fight until we get the smallest and the biggest before the bar of justice."

The above warning was placarded by Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in this community to the bootleggers and the "higher-ups" in the New Jersey liquor scandal who have been exposed by the Supreme Court. Father Bennett, the Roman Catholic priest who took the lead in and became largely responsible for the disclosures made of the operations on the "bootleg ring" in this community.

The placard containing the warning also contained an emblem of the Klan, and was conspicuously displayed in the Weehawken community after threats had been made against the person of the Roman Catholic priest.

The incident is regarded as significant in more than the mere warning it serves to those who have been so flagrantly violating the prohibition law. It is further evidence that the Ku Klux Klan stands for law and order, for good government and a clean community, and refutes the charge which enemies have made against it in this vicinity, that its object is merely to fight Romanism. I show that its principles are higher than mere antagonism to a sect or element; it demonstrates that the Klan is ready to co-operate with any and every element standing for good government and honest enforcement of the laws, and to give aid and co-operation to anyone, be he Roman Catholic or what not, who is fighting for clean government. Its fight against efforts of the higher powers of Romanism to encroach upon none the less earnestly because of its support of an individual of the church who has the manhood to take a bold stand for law enforcement.

## 13 DEAD AND 21 INJURED AS WATER BREAKS DAM

Mud and Water Let Out In Torrent to Wreck Saltville.

Richmond, Dec. 26.—Four more bodies were found today in the muck from the dam that broke Wednesday night and flooded the lower section of Saltville, according to a long distance call from P. K. McKee, in charge of relief work at Saltville to the Associated Press today.

Today's find of the known death list was 13. Seven persons still are missing. The bodies found today were those of children ranging in age from three to ten years. One was that of a girl named Clear, about four years of age and the three others were Stelts, three to ten.

Only three of the 20 injured are suffering from pneumonia, and all of the sick will recover. Six houses were washed away by the muck from the Matheson Alkali wrecks, but the plant itself was not damaged.

Saltville, Va., Dec. 23.—Nine known deaths and six or seven missing together with 21 persons injured, stood as the toll of the muck dam disaster at the Matheson Alkali company works as nightfall enveloped the stricken area tonight.

This little historic town in the Virginia Blue Ridge where Washington's and Lee's armies had their chief supply of salt in two American wars, tonight was heart-heavy as its saddest Christmas day closed without revealing the exact toll of life taken when at 10 o'clock last night a wall of water from a broken "muck" dam engulfed the mill settlement of the Matheson Alkali works in the valley of the Holston river.

The injured lay in an improvised hospital here. Four or five of them are not expected to live. Many have contracted pneumonia from their immersion in the icy waters and virtually all of them were severely burned by the alkali in the muck.

Many others who escaped injury when the crash of waters and mud came down, together with members of rescue parties, who toiled all night and day in the lime muck sustained burns and were treated at emergency hospitals. A call has been issued for eye and nose specialists to treat those suffering severe burns.

## EVIL FLOURISHES LIKE THE GREEN-BAY TREE

Romanists Imagine Providence is Smiling Their Trickery.

We quote the following interesting item from the Christian Leader of Jan. 7, 1919:

It is no new thing that the Church of Rome seeks to control the political movements of any country in which it is strong enough to make it worth while to try. In the early history of our country, Rome was too weak to make itself felt, except in a small way in two or three of the states. But of late it thinks of itself somewhat as Germany has been doing—able to control the government and derive its own nourishment from the life of the nation. Usually it proceeds very slyly, and rarely publishes its purpose to the world; but occasionally it forgets discretion and allows its inward thought to escape. One of our contemporaries has lighted upon an article credited to The National Catholic Register, which sets forth statements of facts and purposes which may well open the eyes of our people. The paper referred to congratulates itself and its readers in such paragraphs as the following:

"It is God's plan that the Holy Father of Rome should be the temporal and spiritual head of His Kingdom on earth. It is the same today as in the time of the first pope. The best way to accomplish this is through political power, through religious education and service. God is doubly blessed the Catholic Church of America by placing one of its most faithful sons at the right hand of President Wilson. Next to the president, Hon. Joseph Tumulty, Knight of Columbus of the 4th degree, wields the greatest political power of any man in America; and as a true Catholic he is exercising the greatest trust which God has given into his hands for the glory of the holy church. Through his tact and holy zeal he has created a warm friendship between the Catholic Church and President Wilson. This is the first time in the history of the country when the president and a great political party have openly sought an equal and honest alliance with the Catholic Church. Through the efforts of Hon. Joseph Tumulty, President Wilson has practically granted that education in the Philippines shall be under control of the Catholic Church; and that religious activity in the great American army shall be under the direction of the Knights of Columbus. This means the addition to the church of one million of the country's best and bravest young men, or at least their strong preference and sympathy for the Catholic Church."

## WOMAN FATALY INJURED IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

Statesville, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Gertrude Sides, of Kannapolis, daughter of Jule Carrigan, of Statesville, was run over and fatally injured by a car driven by Pete Parker, a young man, on Front street, last night. It seems that Mrs. Sides ran in front of Parker's car just as another automobile was passing in the opposite direction, and the driver did not see the woman until within a few feet of her. The wheels passed over her right side, inflicting serious internal injuries, a broken rib being driven through her right lung.

She was hurried to a local hospital but died within an hour. Mrs. Sides was about 30 years old. She was first married to Will Fox, from whom she was divorced, later becoming the wife of Mr. Sides at Kannapolis.

From the evidence given by witnesses the tragedy appears to have been unavoidable. Young Parker, who is a son of Chas. Parker, will be given a preliminary hearing before Mayor L. B. Bristol tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock.

## SHARP WARFARE ON ROMAN CHURCH BY FORMER FOLLOWERS

It is strange that war upon the Catholic Church appears to be most savage in countries that until lately were most completely Catholic. In Mexico, land of many churches, there is openly shown much anti-Catholic feeling.

And in the Argentine Republic, a great power of South America, the attorney general threatens to imprison the Roman Catholic Bishop, Monsignor Juan Bonas, because he refuses to submit for government approval his credentials from Pope Pius.—From Editorial by Arthur Brisbane