

BRANTLEY DENIES CHARGES; CASE TO JURY DURING DAY

Defendant in Rape Case Says He Did Not Assault Lillian Henry, Prosecuting Witness in the Case.

ARGUMENTS IN THE CASE TODAY

Probable That Arguments and Charge to Jury Will Be Completed in Superior Court Late Today.

Willie Brantley is not guilty of rape assault on a female a jury in Cabarrus county court decided this afternoon after an hour's deliberation. The jury received the case shortly after 2 o'clock and they returned their verdict immediately after the verdict was announced.

That he had intimate relations with prosecuting witness, Lillian Henry, and that the relations were had with consent of the girl, was the chief contention of Brantley in his testimony given by Willie Brantley in Cabarrus Superior Court Saturday afternoon when he took the stand in his own defense in which he is charged with rape. Brantley's testimony was given by a crowd that packed the court room and judging by comments made by spectators it was believed probably untrue. Brantley was the last witness called for the defense. He was on the stand about an hour and a half and he made good witness. At the conclusion of testimony Judge W. F. Harding, presiding at the present term of court, adjourned court until 9:30 this morning. Substantial evidence was offered this morning and arguments are being made this afternoon.

Several witnesses in addition to the defendant were heard Saturday, but for the most part they were corroborative. He knew nothing of what actually happened on the night of the rape, but he knew that Brantley and the girl were riding on Thanksgiving night and in the next part they testified concerning statements made by the defendant to the prosecuting witness.

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He and Mrs. Brantley, parents of the defendant, his sister, Miss Lee Brantley, and Mr. Henry Garver testified that they saw the defendant at his home at 11:30 on Thanksgiving night. The prosecuting witness testified that she did not return to his home that night.

Brantley talked freely when on the stand. He admitted that he took the girl to his home on Thanksgiving night, but when she saw a light in her home and she went back to the country at the suggestion of the girl, who, he said, told her she was afraid to go home at that time. Instead of going out on the Charlotte road, as the prosecuting witness declared he had done, Brantley testified that he drove to a road near the Hartwell and Phillips Mills, across the tracks of the Southern, where he backed his car in front of a spot where a house had been. There they spent the remainder of the night, he said.

Earlier in the night, he said, he did not go to the National Highway toward Charlotte, as the prosecuting witness testified, but he got on the highway near the Hartwell Mill, going via the Phillips Mills road, and then on the highway near Hartwell. He did not have intimate relations with the girl at that time, he stated.

After he parked his car in the desertion road, Brantley said, he moved the car from the back seat, laid it from the front to the back seat and lay down on it. He covered himself with a blanket, he testified and asked his witness, "Ain't you going to lie down here?" "Ain't you going to miss it," he said the witness replied.

He had relations with the girl there, he said, and also later in the night. She made no protest, he added, and he made no threat of any kind. Brantley also testified that on the Saturday night before Thanksgiving, while awaiting the girl to her home from his home, he had intimate relations with her.

The defendant stated that he had no idea the prosecution was mad and he charged against him he would not come to the streets of this city, as he did on Friday following Thanksgiving.

The direct examination of the defendant was led by Mr. Maness and he was cross-examined by Mr. Hartwell. An appeal from the State would not be taken, a verdict of rape, stating that the evidence did not justify a verdict. He then stated that the State would ask for a verdict of

DEMOCRATS TO MEET TO SELECT PLACE FOR THE NEXT CONVENTION

Members of National Democratic Executive Committee to Assemble in Washington Tuesday.

BIDS IN FROM AT LEAST FIVE CITIES

Women Members of Committee Will for the First Time Have Full Voice in Its Deliberations.

Washington, Jan. 14.—A panorama of Presidential prospects has been prepared for the members of the Democratic National Committee who meet here tomorrow to select a convention city and transact other business of the party. Friends of William G. McAdoo, Senator-elect of Alabama, Governor Al Smith, of New York, John W. Davis, of West Virginia, Dr. A. A. Murphy, of Gainesville, Fla., and other potential contestants for the nomination are vigorously presenting claims of their candidates.

Selection of the convention city is expected to be sharply contested with supporters of various candidates jockeying for geographical advantages and with financial offers from the contending cities admittedly a prominent item in view of the treasury's deficit of about \$180,000.

Bids from at least five cities are ready for committee consideration but the contest today was thought to center about New York, Chicago and St. Louis. San Francisco and Louisville, however, are expected to present strong inducements.

Chicago's bid will be backed by an offer of \$125,000 and will be presented by a bi-parian delegation. New York's delegation is also understood to be ready to make a large cash offer. San Francisco announced today that city would offer \$200,000.

Women members of the committee who for the first time will have a full voice in its deliberations, held at meeting today to consider their new status and possible lines of action. Matters to come before the committee include, besides selection of the convention city, the wiping out of the deficit and providing a pre-convention campaign fund, and the women members are expected to play important parts in these activities.

SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO RAISE RATE

Ten Per Cent Increase For One Class, While Another Draws an Elevation of 15 Per Cent.

Raleigh, Jan. 12.—Southern Power company seeking its 1.40 kilowatt hour rate for wholesale consumption, won its case which has been three years before the state corporation commission and today was authorized to lift the minimum from 1.25 to 1.40.

The commission in granting what the power company asked, goes lengthily into the discussion which began more than three years ago with the request for the scale of rates granted today. The commission did not then grant the rates asked but advised the power company to make a thorough trial of the tariffs and to return if these failed to yield a reasonable return. The power company came back and with figures convinced the commission that the rate put into effect July 1922 did not raise the revenue hoped for. To none of the evidence presented by the power company did the opposing corporations offer any attack. It was inevitable from the start that the commission would have to accept the power company's figures.

They mean that the increase will be about 10 per cent on one class of consumers and 15 on another. There is a scale of tariffs furnished by the commission which makes for space but not for simplicity. The 1.40 rate is on the basis of 50,000 kilowatt hours a month with a reduction of 5 mills on each succeeding 50,000 up to 200,000. On each 100,000 thereafter there is a cut of 5 mills. When the consumption reaches 700,000 kilowatt hours a month the rate is an even 1 cent. That is for schedule No. 1 or primary power. For schedule No. 2, on the basis of ten months secondary power, the first 50,000 hours pay 1 cent, the second 9 mills and 7 tenths, the third 9.4, the fourth 9.1 and the fifth 8.8. The eighth months secondary gains with 88 and down on the five 50,000 lots, grades down on 88 of a cent to 80.80. Schedule 4 from 88 of a cent to 80.80. Schedule 4 for six months secondary power begins with 80 and cuts 2 of a cent to 78.

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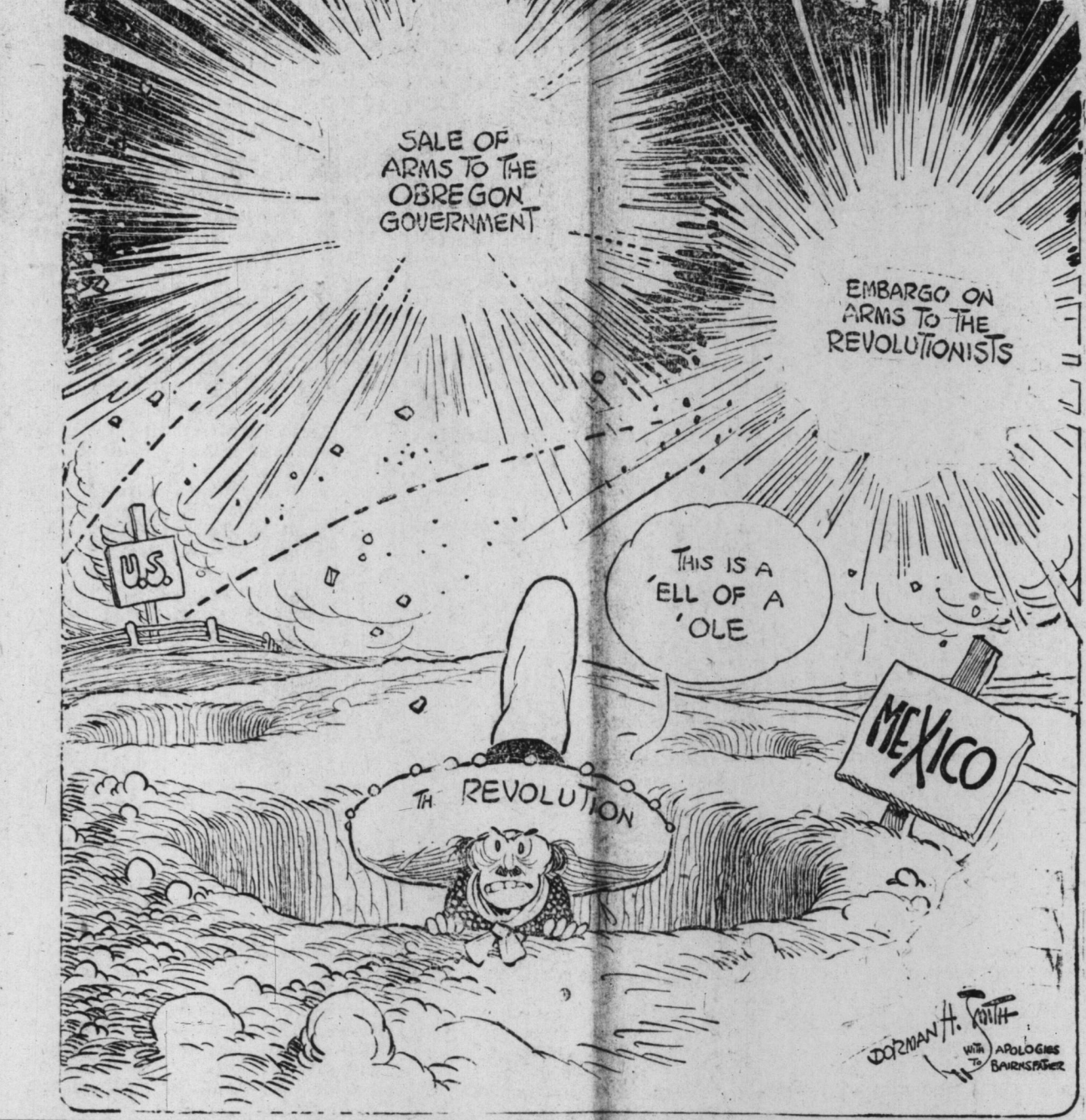
SAT'S BEAR SAYS

Dog Saves Lives of Family. Asheville, Jan. 14.—A dog, "man's best friend" is credited with having saved the lives of the family of Ralph Dittmore in a fire at their home last week. The flames had made considerable headway when the scratching of the dog on the bedroom door awoke members of the family who were able to escape the flames. The home was badly damaged.

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NO "BETTER OLE" IN SIGHT



BOXING SITUATION IN STATE UP IN THE AIR

As a Result of Judge Stack's Recent Address to the Grand Jury.

Raleigh, Jan. 14.—The boxing situation in the State is "up in the air" as a result of Judge Stack's recent address to the grand jury on the subject of bouts being staged in violation of North Carolina laws. A number of persons have been presented by the grand jury of Mecklenburg and it is expected that the board of promoters will be charged with the matter in answer to charges of violations of State laws.

At Raleigh the city administration has decided that any decision as to future boxing matches in the city will be taken only after the outcome of the legal proceedings in Charlotte has been learned. At Salisbury it is stated that no further matches will be staged until the outcome of the proceedings at the Queen City is known.

Wilmington, alone of North Carolina cities, may proceed to stage matches as that place is exempted from the general law, under special act of the 1923 Assembly.

No Curtailment of Mill Operations. Gastonia, Jan. 14.—No curtailment of mill operations is planned by the Armstrong, Gray, Sparks, and Rankin mills during the winter period, according to a statement made here. These three interests represent a large number of spindles in the county. The announcement stated that in spite of the rather sluggish tone of the yarn market that operations would be continued at full blast during the coming months and that such curtailment as was put into effect would be necessary through repairs to plants.

Asheville's Population Increase 40 Per Cent. Asheville, Jan. 14.—During the past three years Asheville's population has increased 40 percent, or 10,401 persons, according to figures compiled by the local Chamber of Commerce. 288 persons have moved to Asheville each month during that period, according to the figures.

An increase also has been noted in the homes. In 1921 there were 5,575 homes in the city and the 1923 house census shows 7,805 homes. This is an average of 61 homes built during each month of the period.

Farmers to Discuss Immigration. Concord, N. H., Jan. 14.—A New England agricultural conference has been called to meet here Wednesday and Thursday of this week, under the auspices of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation and in connection with the annual meeting of the latter organization.

The conference will consider two problems, Immigration and the European corn borer. Representatives of all the New England States have been invited to attend.

Hogs in Salisbury. Salisbury, Jan. 14.—Hogs may still be kept within the city limits of Salisbury according to an announcement made here by clerk of council. It was brought up at a recent meeting that the rules be changed keeping hogs a mile away from the new city limits but this did not pass and as a result the old law stands and in certain sections of the new city limits the animals will be permitted.

Dog Saves Lives of Family. Asheville, Jan. 14.—A dog, "man's best friend" is credited with having saved the lives of the family of Ralph Dittmore in a fire at their home last week. The flames had made considerable headway when the scratching of the dog on the bedroom door awoke members of the family who were able to escape the flames. The home was badly damaged.

New Ambassador to St. James Presented Credentials. London, Jan. 14. (By the Associated Press).—Frank B. Kellogg, the new American ambassador, presented his credentials to King George at Buckingham Palace today.

Money may not bring happiness, but it does give a wider choice as to what you will worry about.

Death of Dr. Schweninger. Munich, Bavaria, Jan. 14.—Dr. Ernest Schweninger, who for years was personal physician to Chancellor Bismarck, died today at the age of 73.

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SEN. M'KELLAR OPPOSES ACCEPTANCE OF POWER BILL

Says Alabama Power Co. Is Owned by British Stock and Bondholders.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The bid of the group of power companies in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee for the government nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals should not be accepted, Senator McKellar, Democrat, of Tennessee, declared today in the Senate.

"There are many reasons for my opinion," he said, "but there is an all-controlling one and others need not be considered. It is a well understood fact that 70 per cent of the stock of the Alabama Power Co., the principal bidder, is owned by British stock and bondholders. For the United States government to lease and turn over this plant, which was built by it for the purpose of being independent of all other nations in procuring nitrates in war times to a corporation whose principal stockholders are subjects of it, leading commercial rival, would be little short of attempted national suicide. That it will not be done is a foregone conclusion.

"Muscle Shoals under Henry Ford's offer will probably develop more horsepower than the nine companies joining in the bid. It is perfectly apparent, however, that the Alabama Power Co. will be chief beneficiary of the bid and the controlling force if the bid is accepted.

"Mr. Ford is the logical man to have the plant. I am now, as I have always been since the matter came up, in favor of leasing it to him."

BILLY SUNDAY TELLS 'EM TO WAIT A WEEK

If They Think He's Hard Now 'Come Out Here Next Sunday And I'll Be Hard Sure Enough.'

Charlotte, Jan. 13.—Delivering a brief sketch of his own life, making a plea for a single moral standard, also a plea for American manhood to stand in defense of American woman, and pleading with men to enlist under the Banner of the Cross, Billy Sunday this afternoon spoke to 9,000 men with hundreds unable to get in the building. It was the greatest assemblage of men ever gathered in Charlotte, and most remarkable meeting ever held here.

The sum of \$5,300 was added to the current expense fund. Mr. Sunday was never more powerful in speech. He spoke from Ecclesiastes 11:9.

Among the many things Mr. Sunday said were:

"I never saw such a crowd in all the towns and cities I have preached in; it ought to be on the front page of the New York newspapers.

"The virtue of womanhood is the rampart which protects civilization; break that down and all is gone.

"I will pay the car fare of any man to any city in this country I ever preached in to find if I don't live up to what I preach. If half they say about me is true I ought to be hung.

"If sin wasn't so desirable it would not be so attractive.

"I circled the diamond in 14 seconds, the first man to do it, and it has never been beat. No man can beat it. I could do it in 10 seconds flat.

"There was a time in my life when a man wouldn't let me to hold a yellow dog on the corner for five minutes.

"Half of the people in this country are lying awake nights trying to figure out how to make an honest living, and the other half are awake trying to figure how to take it away from them.

"Sin is sexless. If you can reform and make some woman a kind; husband, why can't a woman reform and make some man a queenly wife?

"It makes no difference to God who sins, whether they wear a plug hat or hairpins.

"Working men have bought six million automobiles with the money the liquor gang hasn't got in the past four years.

"When I get through here in Charlotte you can take me to the river or military committee meanwhile was getting ready to begin consideration tomorrow of the offers of Henry Ford and others for the government's Muscle Shoals project, and Senator Borah was preparing to get underway the hearing of his resolution favoring recognition of the Russian soviet government.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS

Promised Battle Over Amendments to Rules Sidetracked Bills. Washington, Jan. 14.—With committees of both houses of Congress considering or preparing to start work on a number of important measures, the House today laid aside the Interior Department appropriation bill to begin the promised battle over the amendment of the rules.

Republican insurgents and democrats were more or less united in their efforts to bring about sharper revisions of the rules than recommended by the committee.

The House Ways and Means committee began its public hearing on tax reduction provisions of the Mellon bill and the agricultural committees of both the Senate and House resumed consideration of farm relief measures. The House military committee meanwhile was getting ready to begin consideration tomorrow of the offers of Henry Ford and others for the government's Muscle Shoals project, and Senator Borah was preparing to get underway the hearing of his resolution favoring recognition of the Russian soviet government.

THE COTTON MARKET

Nervous and Unsettled—Net Declines of 19 to 21 Points. New York, Jan. 14.—The cotton market was nervous and unsettled during today's early trading. After a sharp break early, Liverpool rallied rather rapidly just before the local opening, but the advance there was attributed largely to the break in Sterling exchange, and after opening steady at an advance of 2 to 14 points the local market eased off into liquidation and Southern selling. March declined to 33.95 and May to 33.75 during the early trading, making net declines of about 19 to 21 points.

Cotton futures opened steady. Jan. 33.70 offered; March 34.03; July 34.10; July 33.00; Oct. 28.00.

FINANCIERS MEET TO EXAMINE INTO GERMANY'S ASSETS

With a View of Saving Something From Ruins of Most Stupendous Bankruptcy in World's History.

GEN. C. G. DAWES IS PRESIDING

He Stressed the Value of Unity of Command—German Currency Stabilization the First Item.

Paris, Jan. 14. (By the Associated Press).—With Brigadier General Chas. G. Dawes presiding, leading business men and financiers of the United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium and Italy sitting as a board of directors and creditors began to examine the assets and liabilities of Germany, their nations' debtor, with a view of saving something from the ruins of the most stupendous bankruptcy in the history of the world.

"The success of this committee," said General Dawes in opening the meeting, "depends chiefly on whether in the public mind and conscience of the allies and the world there is an adequate conception of the great disaster which faces each ally and Europe unless common sense is crowned king."

General Dawes stressed the value of unity of command in war to show the bad effects of present conditions.

The first meeting was absolutely lacking in any of the military display which marked the conferences in Spain, San Remo, and Genoa. Not a single soldier was in evidence. Chairman Dawes, himself, although he bears a military title, considers himself much better qualified to align figures on paper than soldiers on parade or on the field of battle.

Louis Barthou, president of the reparations commission, delivered the address of welcome to the experts.

European credit, Chairman Dawes said, has suffered a shock, as the world has seen Germany's economic life ebbing, because, he added, "the world realizes that if the German people lose their capacity for work, Germany loses her capacity to pay those reparations which are so great an element in European solvency."

The committee after adopting Chairman Dawes' resolution that it proceed to the study of the stabilization of the German currency as the first item on the agenda, adjourned until afternoon.

WALTON CASE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

Washington, Jan. 14.—The application of John C. Walton, former Governor of Oklahoma, for a review of the proceedings which resulted in his impeachment by the Oklahoma legislature, was formally submitted today to the Supreme Court. A brief in opposition was filed by the Attorney General of Oklahoma and the managers of the assembly in charge of impeachment proceedings.

The briefs in both cases previously had been made public.

Opposed to Evangelists. Winston-Salem, Jan. 14.—The Ministerial Association of Winston-Salem is opposed to the coming here of evangelists and "free lance" preachers. Referring to the free lances as "experts" the Association adopted a resolution opposing the inviting of such men to preach at Winston-Salem without the endorsement of the preachers of the city and unless the Association added its invitation to that of others who might want them here.

Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis Rapidly Recovering. New York, Jan. 14.—Physicians attending the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church, in Brooklyn, who was stricken with cerebral hemorrhage last week, said today he was recovering rapidly and is out of danger.

Bandits Get \$80,000 Worth of Whiskey. Newark, N. J., Jan. 14.—Eight or ten bandits early today broke into the warehouse of the Pierce, Butler & Pierce Co. and escaped with two truck loads of bonded whiskey valued at \$80,000.

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