

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

Volume 66

Established 1872.

Danbury, N. C., Thursday, October 14, 1937.

Number 3,318

Seab Nelson Gets 30 Years

WIFE SLAYER ESCAPES GAS CHAMBER

Seab Nelson, the wife slayer, evades the gas chamber and gets off with 30 years in the pen.

If he will be a good prisoner, he may have to serve much less than this, and might be paroled in a few years.

The verdict of second degree murder was returned late today by the jury composed of the following: John A. Shelton, M. P. Watts, Walter Beck, Paul Campbell, C. C. Kiser, P. O. Frye, N. F. Christian, C. O. Boyles, Gilbert Duggins, R. C. White, Jim Craig and Joe Redman. George Richardson was selected as the thirteenth juror.

It had been generally understood that Nelson was being tried for his life, but his Honor, Judge Bivens, instructed the jury that they might return a verdict of first degree, second degree or acquittal.

The jury was out some two hours, and then brought in a 2d degree verdict.

The judge quickly sentenced the prisoner to his prison home. Thus ended one of most dramatic criminal episodes occurring in the county for many years.

Great interest was shown by all classes of citizens. Among many there was intense feeling in the case.

Nelson's crime was considered the most atrocious that has occurred since Campbell, Rhodes and Sheppard were tried for murder, and escaped the electric chair with prison sentences. To date two of them are loose.

Nelson killed his wife at 10 o'clock on the morning of October 7—just a week ago.

The circumstances involved in the affair are so bitter and heart-breaking that many people refuse to allow you to discuss it in their presence.

Six little children survive this destroyed family—the oldest one only 8 or 9 years of age.

A baby 2 months old cries for its mama who will never come back.

She lies in a new-made grave at Pleasant Grove, where October leaves are falling.

Daddy is gone, too, but daddy may some time return.

Solicitor Allen Gwyn prosecuted, assisted by Attorney Ellington, Ralph J. Scott defended Nelson.

Court adjourned late this afternoon.

Other cases disposed of at this term of criminal court are as follows:

APPEARANCE DOCKET.

State vs. Levi Zigar, Bigamy. Called and failed. Capias.
State vs. Frank Jacobs, non-support. Called and failed. Capias.

State vs. Dewey Golden, possession, nol pros, with leave.

State vs. Leslie Nelson, possession of liquor. Off.

State vs. Adam Young, transporting liquor. Capias.

State vs. G. R. Stone, operating car while intoxicated. Nol pros with leave.

TRIAL DOCKET.

State vs. Reid Joyce, operating car while intoxicated. Continued.

State vs. I. W. Southern, operating car while intoxicated, \$75 and cost. Driver's license suspended for 12 months.

State vs. George Manis, operating car intoxicated. \$75.00 and cost. Driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Willie Shuff, possession of liquor. Cost and not to violate prohibition law for three years.

State vs. W. E. Ogburn, operating car intoxicated, \$75.00 and cost. Driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Garnett Needham, operating car while intoxicated. \$50.00 and cost. Driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Kerfie Roberson, possession of liquor. \$25.00 and cost.

State vs. Jesse Alfred McKaughan, reckless driving. Court orders verdict of not guilty.

State vs. John Riggs. Possession of liquor. \$25.00 and cost.

State vs. Frank Cain, transporting liquor. \$25.00 and cost, and not violate prohibition law for 3 years.

State vs. Charlie Jessup, possession of liquor. \$25.00 and the cost.

State vs. Ben Neal, possession of liquor. \$50.00 and cost and not to violate prohibition law for 3 years.

State vs. Pete Holland, operating car while intoxicated. \$75.00 and cost, and driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Sidney W. Cooke, reckless driving and driving drunk, \$100.00 and cost. Driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Clarence Griffin, manslaughter, continued.

State vs. Walter Merritt, operating car while intoxicated, not guilty.

State vs. Zeb Smith, operating car while intoxicated, \$100.00 and cost. Judgment suspended five years, driving license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Zeb Smith, reckless driving, \$25.00 and cost.

State vs. Zeb Smith, transporting liquor, \$25.00 and cost.

State vs. Floyd Bullin, driving drunk, \$50.00 and cost. Driving license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Fletcher Lawless, Odell Nelson and Posie Nelson, A. D. W., each \$50.00 and cost.

State vs. Ronald Cooke, operating car while intoxicated, called and failed. Capias.

State vs. Muritis Caudle, assault. Judgment suspended upon payment of cost.

State vs. Ed Payne, transporting liquor, \$25.00 and cost, and show good behavior 3 years.

State vs. Elmer Bullin, operating car while intoxicated, and assault with deadly weapon. Mistrial.

State vs. Villard Penn, violating prohibition law, 90 days on road, suspended upon payment of cost within 30 days.

State vs. Geo. Welch, operating car while intoxicated, \$75.00 and cost. Driver's license suspended 12 months.

State vs. Garfield Wall, operating car while intoxicated, 6 mos. on roads.

State vs. Geo. Neal, Mrs. Geo. Neal and Malcom Neal, possession of liquor. Not guilty as to Malcom Neal. Non suit as to Mrs. Geo. Neal. Guilty as to Geo. Neal. Judgment pending.

State vs. Geo. Neal, Mrs. Geo. Neal and Malcom Neal, possession of liquor. Not guilty as to Malcom Neal. Non suit as to Mrs. Geo. Neal. Guilty as to Geo. Neal. Judgment \$300.00 and cost in one case, cost in other and suspended sentence.

FRANK HANCOCK OPPOSES REYNOLDS

CONGRESSMAN OF THE FIFTH DISTRICT ENTERS RACE FOR THE SENATE—DOUGHTON WILL NOT RUN—MARSHALL KURFEES ANNOUNCES FOR HANCOCK'S PLACE—LIVELY YEAR COMING IN POLITICS.

Congressman Frank Hancock Tuesday night announced himself a candidate against Senator Robert R. Reynolds in next June's primary.

At the same time it was given out definitely is Washington that Congressman R. L. Doughton will not be in the race.

Marshall Kurfees of Winston-Salem says he will be a candidate for Hancock's seat in Congress.

The year 1938 will doubtless be a very lively time for politics. In Stokes county both Reynolds and Hancock have strong following. Anybody's guess would be as good as another's as to which of this twain of gentlemen can carry this county.

Nick Stevens Scores Again

I went over to Madison Thursday, and sold two grades, I didn't want but 38 on my 264 lb. grade. I got 39. The other brought 35. I sold with old Tom Frank and he sent me back home satisfied.

Here is what I got:
264 lbs. @ 39.
62 lbs. @ 35.

NICK STEVENS.
14oct1w

AT WINSTON OCTOBER 18

STOKES FARMERS URGED TO ATTEND TOBACCO CONTROL MEETING—T. H. SEARS ASKS OUR GROWERS TO TAKE NOTICE.

A committee headed by Senator Smith of South Carolina, Chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee will hold a meeting next Monday, October 18th, at 10:00 A. M. in Winston-Salem. The meeting will probably be held in the courthouse. The purpose of this meeting is to find out, directly from the farmers themselves, their sentiment as to crop control. The farmers over the country have been requesting crop control and this committee is holding meetings in different sections of the country trying to find out the true sentiment that exists for crop control at present. In this way it will be better prepared to take up crop control when congress meets.

The tobacco farmers in North Carolina made a strong fight last spring for crop control through a state compact, but they did not secure what they wanted. If the tobacco farmers are to have control another year, it is very urgent that they attend this meeting and express their views on the matter. Since Stokes is largely a tobacco county, the farmers of this county should be very interested and make every effort possible to attend the meeting and make known to this committee their wishes as to a control for tobacco.

T. H. SEARS, County Agt.

New Presbyterian Preacher Coming To Stokes

The Rev. Mr. McFall of Mt. Airy has notified Stokes Presbyterians that he has found them a new preacher and will send him down soon to fill the appointments formerly supplied by Rev. John D. Smith, resigned.

Mrs. Judge Bivens

Judge Bivens was accompanied at court here this week by Mrs. Bivens, who was formerly Miss Alma Banner of Mt. Airy, and from one of Mt. Airy's oldest and most respected families. Mrs. Bivens found quite a number of acquaintances among the people at Danbury.

Card of Thanks

We sincerely desire to thank all the many friends who rendered service in the burial of our loved one, Mrs. Cora M. Joyce, and for the beautiful floral offerings.

DR. C. W. JOYCE & FAMILY,
N. O. PETREE AND FAMILY.

MRS. AUGUSTA BUTNER PASSES

SHE LIVED AT TOBACCOVILLE—TOM PETREE TAKES WRONG CAR AT KING—STORK ANTICIPATES WAR—FARMERS GETTING GOOD PRICES.

King, Oct. 13.—Mrs. Augusta Butner, aged 77 years, died at her home in Tobaccoville Saturday following a stroke of paralysis. The deceased is survived by three sons, Edwin Butner of Muncie, Indiana, Tom Butner of Shoals and Hubert Butner of Tobaccoville. One daughter, Miss Lula Butner, of Tobaccoville, survives also two half brothers, Ben Pettit of Shoals and Gus Pettit of Enon. Funeral services was conducted at Macedonia church Monday morning at 11 o'clock and interment followed in the church cemetery. Rev. J. A. Crews was in charge of the service.

Robert, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. White, cut an ugly gash in his leg with a heavy corn knife while cutting tobacco stubbles Saturday. Three stitches were required to sew up the gash. Sidney L. Pulliam has returned to his home in Asheboro after spending a week with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Coon Gunter of Madison spent Sunday with relatives here.

Junior Stone, who is in school at Boone, spent the week-end with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Stone.

T. S. Petree, Earl Wall and S. P. Christian, Danbury citizens, visited King last week. Mr. Petree, who was the cashier of the Bank of King for a number of years, but who had not been here for a long while, got confused and boarded the wrong street car at the corner of Depot and Main. He was let off at Dalton junction and walked back, pretending he was hunting Indian relics.

Mr. Christian, while examining yard a mile or two out, also walked the tombstones in an old graveyard back to town.

Miss Rebecca Helsabeck, who is attending Meredith College, was a week end visitor to her parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Helsabeck, on Dan River street.

Charlie Brown, of Rural Hill, Route 1, was a business visitor here Saturday.

The stork made a specialty of boys last week. Five visits were made and at each home a bouncing boy was left. This begins to look like war. They were: Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Robertson, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lawson, a son; Mr. and Mrs. Norman White, a son; Mr. and Mrs. James Brown, a son; and Mr. and Mrs. William Ashburn a son.

GRAND JURY MAKES REPORT

RECOMMENDS THAT SALE OF COMMODITIES IN SCHOOLS BE STOPPED—TOILET FOR COLORED AT COURT HOUSE IS RECOMMENDED.

State of North Carolina,
County of Stokes.

To His Honor: E. C. Bivens,
Judge Presiding:

The Grand Jury for the October Term, 1937 Superior Court of Stokes County most respectfully submits the following report:

We acted on 32 bills of indictment, 27 of which were found to be "True Bills," 5 not true bills.

Presentments of all criminal nature known to our body were made and acted upon.

A committee visited the county jail and found conditions good both from a stand point of sanitation and repair.

A committee visited the State Prison Camp and found it to be run in a very efficient manner, with sanitary conditions existing throughout the camp.

A committee visited the county home and found it to be kept in a good condition with the exception of beds of inmates needing attention. The committee recommends that this condition be cleared up at once.

A committee visited the various offices of the county court house and found them to be run in a very efficient manner and in good shape.

The Grand Jury recommend that the Honorable Board of Education of Stokes county discontinue the sale of candy, chewing gum and all soft drinks in the public schools of Stokes county.

The Grand Jury recommend that the Board of County Commissioners erect a toilet for colored people in the court house.

W. G. MOORE,
Foreman of Grand Jury.

Growers in this section are very busy preparing and marketing tobacco. They are getting satisfactory prices this year.

Three patients underwent tonsil removal operations in the Stone-Helsabeck Clinic last week. They were: Miss Betty Lou East, of Vade Mecum Springs, Miss Marjorie Garner Newton and Miss Lane Snider, of Elber.

Joe Covington, substantial and well known planter of the Capella section, was here last week on business. Mr. Covington, who's age is 80, stated to your correspondent while here that he is in excellent health. Mr. Covington moves around as glib as he did thirty years ago. He looks like he is good for a hundred or more.