

THE DANBURY REPORTER

Established 1872

Volume 66

Danbury, N. C., Thursday, Oct. 17, 1940. * * *

Published Thursdays

* * * Number 3,561

Alleged Murderer Of Jim Matthews Captured

Zeke Johnson Wanted In Stokes After Twenty Years--Under Arrest At Toledo, Ohio--Solicitor Ralph Scott Obtains Requisition Papers From Gov. Hoey--Johnson Resists Extradition--John Taylor Waits To Go For Man Indicted In 1920.

Twenty years ago near Walnut Cove Jim Matthews, one of the bravest and most efficient deputy sheriffs that ever did his duty in Stokes county, was shot and instantly killed while in pursuit of a car loaded with a group charged with law violations at a carnival being held at that time at Walnut Cove.

When out from Walnut Cove on the road leading 2 or 3 miles toward Dicktown, the car which included Jack Hawkins, now policeman of Madison, and Cephus (Zeke) Johnson, belched a fire which ended the life of Jim Matthews.

Evidence tended to show that the fatal bullet came from the gun of Johnson.

Jack Hawkins was arraigned, but the evidence cleared him—he was discharged on a non-suit motion.

Johnson escaped in the darkness.

Now, after 20 years, the supposed murderer of Jim Matthews has been caught and is now in custody of Toledo, Ohio, authorities.

The following dispatch from Raleigh, dated October 14, gives particulars:

"Raleigh, Oct. 14.—The long arm of the law reached toward Toledo, Ohio, today in an effort to return a man to Stokes county to face trial for his life on a murder indictment returned against him 20 years ago.

"Governor Hoey sent requisition papers to Gov. John W. Bricker, of Ohio, asking for the surrender to Stokes county officers of Cephus (Zeke) Johnson. The papers said Johnson was under arrest in Toledo.

"In a letter to Governor Hoey, Solicitor Ralph Scott, of the 21st judicial district, said he was sending the papers as "all witnesses except one are yet available, and I will be able to make out a clear case against the defendant if he is returned".

"The papers showed that A. J. Hawkins and Zeke Johnson were indicted in Stokes in 1920 for the killing of James H. Matthews. They further set forth that it was intended to try Johnson on a

2604 STOKES BOYS DRAFTED

REGISTRANTS FALL SHORT IN CONSIDERABLE NUMBER FROM EXPECTED ENLISTMENT—SLACKERS TO BE ROUNDED UP BY FEDERAL DECREE—WAR BOARD TO MEET THIS WEEK TO ORGANIZE.

Twenty-six hundred and four Stokes county boys responded to the call of their country Wednesday and registered in the draft to enlist 16 and a half millions of men for the country's defense in case of war.

The call was for the registration of all men between 21 and 36. As Stokes' quota was considerably more than 2604, it is learned by the Reporter that quite a few Stokes boys, either through misinformation or otherwise, failed to give in their names to the registers, who held forth from 7 o'clock till 9 p. m.

The war board will meet this week to organize at the court house. The board is composed of S. A. Flinchum, W. D. George and Moir Hawkins.

It is earnestly urged by all law-abiding and patriotic citizens that those young men who failed to register at Wednesday's draft, present themselves to the board without delay and enlist in the roster of young men. Otherwise the power of the Federal government will be invoked to the due execution of the draft law, which applies to all men within the prescribed ages, whether white or colored, rich or poor.

When the war board organizes it will require a whole-time clerk and stenographer. These have not yet been chosen, but are expected to be named at once.

Mrs. McCannless Entertains

Mrs. William McCannless entertained at an informal dinner party at her home last Friday honoring the birthday anniversary of Mrs. J. Fred Gerner.

The invited guests were: The honoree, Mrs. Gerner, Mrs. Edwin Green, of Decatur, Ala., Mrs. Dick Loman, of Walnut Cove, Mrs. Alfred Ellington, Mrs. A. G. Sisk and Lois M. Pearson, all of Danbury.

first degree murder charge, which carries the death penalty in event of conviction."

It is later learned that Johnson has resisted extradition papers, and his return to Danbury jail awaits due process of law.

In the meantime, Sheriff John Taylor awaits the word to go after Johnson, who it may be expected, will be tried for his life at Danbury at the January, 1941, term of Stokes criminal court.

JESSE BILL LAWSON DIES

HIS PASSING WAS SUDDEN WITH A HEART ATTACK—HE WAS A PROMINENT FARMER OF LAWSONVILLE.

Jesse Bill Lawson died suddenly with a heart attack while stripping tobacco Tuesday morning at his barn near the home.

He was 53 years of age, and had been in normal health. Gilmer Watkins, his neighbor, who was in Danbury at the time the news of the death reached here, was shocked, saying he had been riding in a car with Mr. Lawson just a day or two before. Mr. Lawson appeared to be in excellent health.

The deceased is survived by his widow, who was Miss Betty Collins before marriage; one daughter, Mrs. Howard Lawson, of Danbury, Route 1; two sons, Frank Lawson, of Beckley, W. Va., and Herman Lawson, of Lawsonville; one sister, Mrs. Earlie Virginia Flippin, of Amelia county, Virginia; three brothers, Moyer Lawson, of Madison, Route 1, John G. Lawson, of Madison, and V. G. Lawson, of Amelia county, Virginia; and his mother, Mrs. Emily Lawson of Madison.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the Snow Creek Baptist Church by Elders J. A. Fagg and Noel Gilbert, both of Winston-Salem. Burial was in the church graveyard.

Death of Brother Of N. E. Wall

Emanuel Wesley Wall, aged 63, well known Stokes county farmer, died Monday afternoon at 1:40 o'clock at his home, Tobaccoville, Route 1. He had been seriously ill for three weeks.

Mr. Wall was born in Stokes county, September 6, 1877, a son of J. T. and Eunice Boles Wall. He was one of the best known men in the King community. He was a member of the Trinity Methodist Church and King Council 156 of the Junior Order.

Surviving are the widow, who was Miss Virginia Newsom prior to marriage; three sons, V. O., W. A., and K. B. Wall, of King; two daughters, Mrs. J. N. Law, of King, and Miss Mayfield Wall, of the home; two brothers, R. V. Wall, of Pinnacle, and N. Earl Wall, of Danbury; one sister, Mrs. J. S. Boyles, of Dalton, and 12 grandchildren.

The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock at Trinity Methodist Church. Rev. W. R. Harris conducted the services. Burial was in the church graveyard.

Ray Wilson of Whitewater was in town today.

CIVIL COURT CLOSES TODAY

W. F. STEVENS AND GLADYS PAGE LEWIS, RESPECTIVELY, GET JUDGMENT AGAINST RAILWAY COMPANY—OTHER VERDICTS—STOKES LUMBER CO. VS. MACHINE COMPANY, PENDING.

While the suit of Stokes Lumber Co. vs. Newman Machine Company is pending this Thursday evening, it is expected the civil term of court will close today, as Judge Rousseau has discharged all jurors other than those sitting on this case.

W. F. Stephens, admr., and Gladys Page Lewis, admx., in respective cases against Atlantic Coast Line Railway, were each awarded \$1250.00 damages, but in each case the plaintiff pays cost.

Other cases disposed of are as follows:

Overby vs. Overby, judgment for plaintiff.

Gordon vs. Gordon, judgment for plaintiff.

Bennett vs. Bennett, judgment for plaintiff.

Cox vs. Bennett, judgment for plaintiff.

Davis vs. Federal Land Bank, non-suit.

Wilkins vs. Burton, continued.

Ward vs. Burton, continued.

Stovall vs. Stuart, judgment for plaintiff \$125.00 plus interest.

Fulton Motor Co. vs. Flynt, judgment for plaintiff \$75.00.

Tuttle Motor Co. vs. McKenzie, continued.

Mtn. View News

Mtn. View.—The Stokes County Service Club met last Friday night at the Community Building for their regular meeting. There were several present and a very interesting program was rendered.

The Young Democrats met at the Community Building on Monday night, Oct. 14 and organized a Young Democrats Club. Several young and older Democrats were present. Cary L. Carroll called the meeting to order and the following officers were elected:

Gates Ferguson, president; Cleve Cromer, vice president, and Nina Baker, secretary and treasurer. Several committees were appointed and Mr. Carroll made a fine speech on "The Good Old Days Under Roosevelt."

Mrs. R. W. Barr and Nina Baker attended court at Danbury last week.

Vicilla Boles spent the week-end at home. She is attending Branch's Business College at Winston-Salem.

Miss Fannie Hartman, of Danbury, visited friends in Virginia.

Mrs. Martha Cook and Ernest Wright Pass at King — Other News of King

King, Oct. 17. — Mrs. Martha Cook, aged 78, widow of J. Allen Cook, died at her home here Sunday night following an attack of pneumonia. The deceased is survived by two sons, Dewitt Cook, of High Point and J. Robert Cook, of King. Several grandchildren also survive. Funeral and interment was at Mount Olive Church Tuesday morning at 11:00 o'clock.

J. H. Woodley and son have opened a blacksmith and wood-working plant on Depot street. Allen Mabe has been employed to do horse-shoeing.

Miss Cora Boles has returned to her home after a few days' visit to her sister, Mrs. P. J. Caudle in Bon Air, Winston-Salem.

Ernest Wright, aged 60, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Wright, died in a Winston-Salem hospital Thursday following a short illness. Surviving are five brothers, Pete Wright, of Troutman; William Wright and Grover Wright, of Mount Airy; Jarvis Wright of Montrose and Zebuel Wright of Chocowinity, and one sister, Mrs. Anne Kirby, of King. The funeral service, which was in charge of Rev. Paul Herman Newsom, of King, and Rev. Harris of Rural Hall, was conducted at Mount Pleasant Church Saturday afternoon at 2:30 and burial followed in the church cemetery.

Dr. and Mrs. Rupert S. Helsabeck spent the week-end with relatives at Staunton, Va.

Work is underway on a new club house for the King troupe of boy scouts. It is being erected near the high school building.

Westley Wall is quite sick at his home west of town his many friends will regret to learn.

The stork got by light last week. Only being disturbed twice on calls to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shelton, a daughter and to Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Chambers, a son.

The condition of Poe Gordy, who has been on the sick list for some time at his home here, remains about the same.

Stanley Newsom of High Point was a week-end visitor to relatives and friends here.

Robert Smith of Danbury was among the business visitors here Friday.

Mrs. Rufus Hooker of Rural Hall underwent a tonsil removal operation in the Stone-Helsabeck Clinic Friday.

Spending a short while in town Sunday evening were Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Forrest, Miss Machel, Miss Dixon, and Joe E. Cox of Dobson; Miss Norma Forrest and Wilbur Forrest of Franchon.

SIGNAL HONOR TO DANBURY LADY

MRS. D. C. KIRBY IS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE SIXTH DISTRICT N. C. FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS.

At a recent Sixth District meeting of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs held in Rural Hall, with the local club and King Woman's club as hostesses.

Mrs. Dallas C. Kirby of the Fine Arts Club of Danbury, was elected President of the district.

The Sixth District is composed of Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Rowan, Stokes Surry, and Yadkin counties with 20 Federated clubs of over 920 women.

The duties of a district president are to federate clubs, to organize new clubs, to form county Federations, and to cooperate with the chairman of Districts in all endeavors to further the efficiency of the Federation. She is also to serve as advisory member of the Sallie Southall Cotten Loan Fund Committee, each district President to function in her own district.

Mrs. Kirby will be installed into her new office at the 39th annual convention which will be held in Winston-Salem May 6-9, 1941.

Mrs. Kirby is secretary of the local Fine Arts Club, secretary of the Union Missionary Society and recently elected president of the Wednesday Evening Book Club of Danbury.

Luncheon Honoring Mr. Broughton

Monday, October 7, Edwin M. Taylor was host to a number of friends at the home of Mrs. J. S. Taylor in honor of Honorable J. M. Broughton, candidate for governor, who delivered an address at the courthouse on that day.

Those invited were:

C. E. Davis, Lawrence McRae, and William F. Marshall, of Walnut Cove; J. Hampton Price, of Leaksville; S. Gilmer Sparger, of Raleigh, Judge J. A. Rousseau, of North Wilkesboro; J. C. Carson, A. J. Ellington, N. E. Pepper, J. J. Taylor, the honoree, Mr. Broughton, and Mr. Peace, of Raleigh, who accompanied Mr. Broughton.

Alfords Entertain at Hanging Rock Park

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Alford entertained at a picnic lunch at Hanging Rock Park Sunday honoring guests from Raleigh and Winston-Salem. The guests included J. E. Pearson, Miss Eunice Martin, Miss Esther Ivey, and Miss Jessie Draper, all of Raleigh, and Miss Mollie Wilcox of Winston-Salem.