

Lincoln County News

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REEP SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Newton, July 14.—Robert Reep who was placed on trial yesterday afternoon on the charge of killing Neil Turner last month, pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree this morning when court convened. The jury was immediately discharged by Judge Lane who proceeded to hear the evidence. Horace Reep was the first witness to testify that he returned to his home at about 10 o'clock on the night of the killing, driving his car into his barn between two wagons standing near his barn. He walked out toward the wagon and saw Robert Reep the defendant, they spoke to each other when Robert Reep called to Neil Turner and says "get up let's go, Neil Turner replied, "you are more trouble than my four months old child, I can control it better," and as Turner left his wagon standing with his left side toward Robert Reep about a step from him, and about a step from Horace Reep, Robert Reep shot Cornelius Turner, Turner hollering "you've killed me without cause," and repeated again "I am going to die, Robert Reep has shot me without cause."

Forest Turner, son of the murdered man, testified as to the trip he and his father had made through Western North Carolina selling sugar to merchants and farmers along the road, and also testified that he heard all that was said at the time of the killing which was practically the same as told by Horace Reep. The next witness was a negro by the name of Will Hart, who knew practically the same as far as Turner's testimony. The next witness was George P. Mull, who testified that about half an hour after the killing took place Reep came to his home and awoke him and asked him to take his home, Mull telling him he could not, Reep then inquired for his brother who refused to take him. Then Reep called to Mull and asked him to come to the door saying I have something to tell you, upon his going to the door Reep said I have killed Neil Turner and I want you to take me home, Mull finally agreed and did take him to his home in Lincoln county. Reep telling him several more times on the way that he had killed Neil Turner because Turner had called him an ugly name and drew a stick on him. He also asked Mull to loan him some money.

Robert Reep, who was charged in the bill of indictment with murder in the first degree, but the state accepting his plea to murder in the second degree, took the stand as the first witness for the defence. He said that Horace Reep and Neil Turner had a fuss over some sugar and liquor, Neil Turner claiming that the amount of liquor Horace Reep was giving him which was something like twenty gallons, was not enough in payment for the sugar he had delivered Horace Reep. They quarrelled for quite awhile and Robert Reep testified that he told them that if that was the way they were going to do he was going to leave and stated when Turner called him an ugly name threatened to kill him, threw a rock at him and started to throw another and then he shot him to protect his life.

A number of character witnesses were introduced giving Neil Turner a bad character, all of them saying that he was a violent and dangerous man and that he had killed two men. A number of witnesses gave the defendant, Robert Reep a good character.

SENTENCE IMPOSED ON THE BRINKLEYS AND REEP

Abrer Brinkley Given Five Years, Fred Two Years and Robert Reep 15 Years.

Newton, July 14.—Judge Henry H. Lane this afternoon sentenced Abrer Brinkley to five years in the penitentiary and Fred Brinkley, his brother, to two years in the penitentiary. The Brinkleys were convicted yesterday for the killing of Homer Barringer last March.

Robert Reep who was placed on trial yesterday for first degree murder for killing Cornelius Turner, last month, pled guilty to second degree murder in court this morning and was sentenced by Judge Lane to fifteen years in the state penitentiary.

Counsel for the Brinkleys gave notice of appeal to the supreme court and bond for \$2,500 for Abrer Brinkley and \$1,500 for Fred Brinkley was fixed by Judge Lane. Fred gave bond returned to his home with his family. Abrer was remanded to the county jail.

Newton, July 15.—Catawba county superior court which has been in session here for the past two weeks came to a close at noon today and Judge Lane who presided during the session, left on No. 22 for his home in Reidsville. The entire two weeks was taken up in the trial of criminal cases, no civil cases being docketed.

Practically all the morning was taken up in the trial of Chas. Kale of Hickory and the trying of divorce cases. Kale was acquitted of the charge against him. He was represented by A. A. Whitener of Hickory and Feimster and Feimster of Newton. The girl in the case was represented by Jos. L. Murphy of Hickory.

EXTRA SESSION LEGISLATURE DEC. 6

General Assembly To Convene Dec. 6, but not to Tamper With Program of Last Session—Governor Morrison in Statement Explaining Reasons for Decision to Call Extra Session, Declares "We Do Not Want the Right to Sell the Bonds of This State at a Higher Rate Than Five Per Cent"

Raleigh, July 14.—"The rumor abroad in the state that there is necessity for any legislation with reference to the program of the last general assembly are utterly unfounded," declared Gov. Morrison in a prepared statement issued late today explaining the reasons prompting himself and the council of state in deciding upon a special session of the legislature, to be convened Tuesday, December 6, next.

"We do not want the right to sell the bonds of this state at a higher rate than five per cent," declared the governor, "and until the money market is such that we can sell the bonds at this price, we will do as the general assembly ordered us to do, borrow short-term money at the lowest rate of interest obtainable. We will have no trouble getting all the money we need in the meantime to carry out the state's program. We have never paid over six per cent for any money yet, and hope we will not have to. If it gets too high and we cannot go forward with our program without paying unreasonable rates of interest or selling long-term bonds at the higher rate of interest than five per cent, we will stop the constructive program and wait until we can."

The governor also took occasion in his statement to declare that "the fear expressed in a portion of the press of the state that the general assembly will have to convene to provide for carrying on the schools for the coming two years is of course unfounded."

The general assembly will meet in special session to provide relief for the North Carolina municipalities suffering from the invalidation of the 1921 municipal finance act, through a clerical error, and to cure a \$700,000 deficit in the school funds of the state.

Agreement for the call of a special session was reached by Governor Morrison and the council of state this afternoon, but the formal call has not yet been made.

It was the sense of the governor and council of state that the cities, although thrown back on the revenue encompassed within the limits of a 10 per cent increase over that available from taxes levied in 1918, can get along very well until December when the special session will authorize them to bond the deficit created or to borrow the money to meet it, starting the state clean again with the re-enacted 1921 municipal act. The \$700,000 school fund deficit the counties will be asked to carry by advancing the state's share of the fund until December, when the legislature can provide for its payment.

The reclassification of the teachers by which North Carolina advanced from the bottom of the list of states to the fourteenth is assigned by the governor as the reason for the deficit, a reason for which the governor feels no shame. The growth of the schools and the advancement of the teachers were just beyond the imagination of the state superintendent when he made his estimate of expenses.

MR. THEODORE COCHRANE RETURNS FROM NEW YORK

Attended the Sixth World's Christian Endeavor Convention.

Mr. Theodore Cochrane returned last week from New York where he attended the World's Christian Endeavor Convention. He was greatly pleased with his trip to the Metropolitan, and with the great convention.

With the closing message of Dr. Frances E. Clark, the founder of the movement, the Sixth World's Christian Endeavor Convention in New York City has passed into history as the largest and most successful religious gathering of young people at any time.

The sessions were held at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory from Wednesday, July 6th, until Monday, July 11th, with overflow meetings in the Marble Collegiate, Brick Presbyterian, Madison Avenue Baptist, First Moravian, and many other churches.

In the course of the sessions sixty evangelistic teams, recruited from the young delegates, held noon meetings in wide and varied sections of the city. The largest of these, upon the Sub-Treasury steps in Wall Street, with the music led by Homer Rodeheaver and his trombone, with John McNeil and John Pollock speaking, drew thousands.

On Saturday afternoon the Endeavors paraded by historic Fifth Avenue, twelve thousand in line, practically every marcher in costume, a series of more than a dozen floats picturing the principles of Christian Endeavor. Federal Commissioner of Immigration Frederick A. Wallis, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements Bryan and Doctor and Mrs. Francis E. Clark rode at the head of the procession in an automobile. All the United Society officers and local Committee Chairmen were in line. Blaise New York admitted the parade to be the most picturesque and orderly parade ever known to a city familiar with countless parades. A motion picture camera man in a police tower ran out of film and expressed his disgust profanely.

"Who'd a ever thought it'd be good!" Pageantry and the colors of many lands marked practically every session. A separate Junior World's Convention enrolled more than sixteen hundred registrations in addition to the fourteen thousand registered delegates to the main convention. The kiddies conducted their own sessions, then presented a dramatic pageant at the Armory.

The Missionary Committee filled the Armory theatre with an exhibition in which twenty-five denominational boards co-operated. A Missionary pageant on Sunday afternoon brought the messages of the foreign countries, of which not one in the world today is without Christian Endeavor. On Thursday evening a Missionary Tea was held in Chinatown and more than a thousand Endeavors were the guests of New York City Chinese Endeavor Societies.

An Alumni Banquet was held at the Hotel Majestic with fourteen hundred at table. Two State Conventions were held in Fifth Avenue churches, each with a thousand Endeavors in attendance. Three simultaneous Quiet Hour Sessions started each morning's session, led by such outstanding figures as Dr. David James Burrell, Dr. William Hiram Foulkes, and Dr. E. L. Reiner.

In the second period of each morning these conferences were upon the work of the various denominations, of which thirty-five were represented.

The convention speakers included William Jennings Bryan, Frederick A. Wallis, Fred B. Smith, A. E. Cory, Floyd W. Tompkins, S. D. Jordan, Robert E. Speer, Roger Babson, Ira Landrith, Francis E. Clark and scores of others. At the Sunday evening decision service one hundred and five Endeavorers made definite declaration of intention to enter full time Christian service.

COTTON CROP OF 1920-21 IS NINETEEN MILLION BALES

Washington, July 14.—The world cotton crop of the year 1920-21 is placed at 19,500,000 bales of 550 lbs. gross, of 478 pounds net, by the Bureau of Markets and crop estimates, Department of Agriculture, which based its calculation on the best information available. The bureau of the census, commerce department, places the world production of commercial cotton at 19,830,000 of 500 pounds net, exclusive of linters, basing its calculation on published reports, documents and correspondence.

The Department of Agriculture figures were made up as follows: United States, 18,366,000 bales; India, 2,976,000; Egypt, 1,215,000; China, 1,000,000; Russia, 180,000; Brazil, 100,000; Mexico, 165,000; Peru, 157,000, and all other countries 400,000.

MEETING OF GAINESVILLE CLUB

The Gainesville Community Club held a very interesting meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Hauss, July 13. A candy demonstration was given by our County Home Agent, Mrs. Florence R. Winn, assisted by Miss Sallie Warlick of Lincolnton, chocolate fudge made by Mrs. Winn and cream candy by Miss Warlick. While the candy was cooling the roll was called, minutes of the last meeting was read by the Secretary. A very interesting game was played by all. Forty ways to get there, which caused a great deal of fun. Prizes were won by Mrs. J. O. Tutherford and H. K. Sullivan. After games and songs were over the candy was served which was greatly enjoyed by all. The club was glad to have with them Mrs. Saine and Miss Warlick and hope to have them again soon especially when making candy.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Fannie Leonard. The date will be given later. Mrs. R. F. Hauss, Sec.

STATE AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY DEBATING ROADS

Charlotte Observer, 14th. A conference between Walter A. Cohoon, attorney of the state highway commission, and J. L. DeLaney, representing the Mecklenburg transaction in the proposed way, was held yesterday at Mr. DeLaney's office in the law building, to discuss certain details of the 44-mile stretch of the state highway.

It appears that Mecklenburg wants to know exactly what is required of her in this transaction in which she expects to lend the money without interest to the state for her share of the work, between \$200,000 and \$250,000. The state has promised to assume this responsibility and repay the money so that the county will have lost nothing by the transaction.

Yet, according to Mr. DeLaney, there are certain requirements in the contract which Mecklenburg wishes to investigate and he has been delegating this work, in conference with Mr. Cohoon.

The outcome of the conference Mr. DeLaney said he could not divulge at this time, but he intimated that some of the details of the contract would not be acceptable to the Mecklenburg commission.

Already a number of counties have signed the contract with the state to advance the money from their own bond issues or other state highway, which in many counties in the state, is the most important road running through such counties. Hence their willingness to put the money where it will do the greatest service, though the other county built road may have to wait.

The closing of the contract between the state highway commission and the county of Mecklenburg for \$200,000 or more, for the state highway from Charlotte to Statesville, therefore, hangs on the outcome of the agreement of the two bodies as to the contract. It is not doubted but that the two will reach an agreement, after Mecklenburg's side of the issue has been taken up by the state highway attorney mere at leisure, and that the long stretch of first class road will be built within the next year or two.

DUNN VOTES BOND FOR NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

Dunn, July 13.—Dunn carried its school bond election yesterday by a vote of 246 to 23, making it possible for the school district to at once issue bonds sufficient for the construction of two new school buildings this year. The election authorizes the issuance of \$200,000 in bonds. Only about \$125,000 will be issued this year, however, since the building program will not permit of the construction of more than the two buildings now. Next summer a teachersage will be constructed and the present high school building will be remodeled.

There were 381 voters qualified to vote in this election, but 112 chose not to vote. The good showing made by the bond advocates is almost wholly due to the efforts of the Women's Club to get all of the qualified women to the polls. The women generally were almost solidly behind the project to build more schools.

Shelby July 15.—Nearly 300 guests sat down last evening at the magnificent dinner which formally opened the new Cleveland Springs hotel—a palatial hostelry located two miles from the heart of Shelby and managed by R. T. Rosemond, one of the most capable hotel men in the southern states.

Don't burn your bridges ahead of you.

SEVEN MEN IN "DEATH ROW"

Unless Governor Morrison Interferes Seven Men Will Be Put to Death During the Next Few Months in The Electric Chair—Four of Them White, Three Colored—W. Y. Westmoreland One of Them.

Raleigh, N. C. July 13.—Seven men all convicted of first degree murder, occupy cells in "death row" at the state penitentiary here. All of the condemned men lost in their appeals to the Supreme Court for new trials and, unless Governor Morrison interferes, they probably will be put to death in the electric chair during the next few months. The original dates for the executions were cancelled pending the appeals, but the governor is expected to set new dates within the next few days. Three of the men are white.

Among the occupants of "death row" awaiting electrocution is J. T. Harris, prominent merchant of Ridge Crest, who was convicted in Buncombe county last November of the murder of F. W. Monnish, of Tusculoosa, Ala., at Ridge Crest on September 3, 1920. The Supreme Court recently handed down a decision of no error in the Harris case. At Harris' trial the defense admitted the killing, but introduced evidence purporting to show that the defendant was mentally irresponsible at the time of the tragedy. Much interest is being shown in the Harris case and Governor Morrison has received a number of petitions favoring and opposing commuting Harris' sentence.

The complete list of prisoners under death sentence follows: Doll Little, negro convicted in Anson county of murder; received at the prison on May 1, 1919. Original date for electrocution June 27, 1919; appealed and lost.

Frank Henderson, white, convicted in Madison county of murder; received at prison October 5, 1920; original date for electrocution November 12, 1920. Appealed and lost.

J. T. Harris, white, convicted in Buncombe county of murder; received at prison on December 3, 1920; original date for electrocution January 28, 1921. Appealed and lost.

Harry Caldwell, negro, convicted in Wayne county of murder; received at the prison on December 3, 1920; original date for electrocution January 28, 1921. Appealed and lost.

Jesie Foster, negro, convicted in Wayne county of murder; received at prison on December 3, 1920; original date for electrocution January 28, 1921. Appealed and lost.

W. Y. Westmoreland, convicted in Iredell county of murder, received at prison February 6, 1921; original date for electrocution set for April 6, 1921. Appealed and lost.

Claude Morehead, convicted in Guilford county of murder; received at prison on April 15, 1921; original date for electrocution May 22, 1921. Appealed and lost.

HARDING IS GETTING ON THE WILSON PLATFORM

News and Observer. All patriotic Americans are reading with interest the words of approval to Great Britain, France, Italy and other nations of the invitations which President Harding is sending out for a Disarmament Conference. The sooner it is held the better. The Covenant of the League of Nations contained in Article 8 the following:

"The members of the League recognize that the maintenance of peace requires the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations."

Ever since the Day of the Armistice the world has hoped for the carrying out of the reduction of armaments in pursuance of the above action of the covenant. Mr. Harding is taking the steps that are necessary to secure the harvest for which American youths gave up their lives. The Borah resolution looked to an invitation to only Japan and Great Britain. President Harding enlarges the scope of the conference and invites other nations. The Wilson plan was to secure it thru a League of Nations. The result may be obtained by an "association" or "understanding" rather than thru a league. The end to be attained is an agreement between nations which maintain large armies and large navies. No matter how it is secured, the Wilson plan in effect must prevail.

103 ALLEGED I. W. W.'S DRIVEN OUT OF TOWN

Aberdeen, S. D. July 15.—One hundred and three alleged I. W. W.'s were driven out of Aberdeen tonight by citizens' posse aiding Sheriff Elliott, of Brown county.

They were herded in two groups, one sent east and the other north. Each group was driven about ten miles.

Other towns in the vicinity notified to keep the men moving.

MAY NOT SCUTT State Library REVALUATION ACT

The Rate Limit is Bothering Now—School Fund Worries—State School Fund Fell Short Last Year Nearly \$700,000.

From News and Observer: Repentance over the scuttling of the Revaluation Act reached the second stage during the past week when representatives of the official family in Green county, in the heart of the section where deflation hit hardest, came to Raleigh to inquire if it would be possible for that county to reconsider its previously approved cut of 50 per cent in property values. Other counties in the State are said to be preparing similar overtures to the Revenue Commission.

Inability to make the tongue of tax rates meet the bet of reduced property values is said to have impelled Greene county to take steps toward going back to the value of the Revaluation Act. Last year the county levied up to the bill and had no money to spare. This year, with values reduced by half, and no further rope in the way of a tax rate, the County Commissioners see nowhere to go but to Revaluation.

Up Against Rate Limit.

Fifteen cents is as high as the county may levy for general expenses and Greene levied approximately that much last year and was not too free from financial cramps. Thirty cents is the limit for school purposes, and Greene levied that much last year and had no surplus left over. And on top of that, Greene wanted property values lowered and the Revenue Commission did not put any hindrance in the way of their desires.

Week before last the Greene commissioners got Superintendent E. C. Brooks' letter about raising as much money this year as was raised last year for school purposes, regardless of how the property values had been altered. Greene had already raised as much as it could under the legal rate of taxation, and could have used more. No higher rate can be levied, and with values cut half in two, the school fund and the general expense fund this year will shrink accordingly.

Similar tales are beginning to reach Raleigh from other sections of the State, particularly since the Brooks letter was sent out advertising the county authorities that school monies must be kept up to the standard set by the State Board of Education. The state school fund fell short nearly seven hundred thousand dollars during the past year, and the General Assembly provided only \$600,000 to be used as an equalizing fund this year.

School Fund Worries.

This latter fund will go not far toward making up for such reductions as impend in the school funds in Greene and other counties which cut their values so sharply when the bars were lowered by the General Assembly. The counties apparently realize that they must look to themselves for the major portion of the money that will run their schools this year. Other funds are materially diminished, and no way has been found for reducing the cost of county government, or eliminating any of the demands that are made upon them.

High revenues and not high valuations appear to be the basis of the trouble that confront many of the counties. Greene for instance, had a valuation of \$20,010,092, which yielded a school income of approximately \$50,000 and a general purpose fund of \$30,000 last year. The twenty million cut to ten million also cuts the income square in the middle, leaving only \$15,000 for general purposes and \$30,000 for schools.

Apparently it isn't enough. When the General Assembly raised valuations, it cut the maximum rate. The new rate on the old valuation can't produce the revenue required by the counties, and therein lies their discomfort. No intimation has come from the Revenue Department as to the ruling that will be made. It is understood that the delegation from Greene was directed to produce the law, and that it would then be care fully studied.

DEPUTY SHERIFF SUFFERS BECAUSE OF HIS ZEAL

Shelby, July 13.—Cleveland County is perhaps not more addicted to moonshining than many other counties, but its officers are very efficient. Every day, almost a still is brought to town by some county deputy. The activities of Deputy Perley Hoyle, of No. 11 township (Casar) against the blockaders have been so strenuous that he has been the victim of vandalism the past week, some unknown persons entering his fine field of green corn and cutting down about 500 stalks and driving a burly around and about the field to the further damage of the crop.

SHORT ITEMS

High Point, July 13.—What is believed to be the smallest illicit liquor still ever captured in North Carolina was displayed today in the window of a local drug store. The still is of only one-quart capacity and was captured near the city. County Officers found the outfit concealed in a brush pile near an abandoned house.

Raleigh, July 14.—A summer anti-toi for the state will be transferred to Asheville next Monday and gubernatorial matters will be handled from the mountain city until September 1. This announcement came from the governor's office today. With Governor Morrison will go his sisters, Miss Ida Morrison, Mrs. Ada Nuttall and his little daughter, Miss Angela, and his executive secretary Miss Margaret Willis.

Columbia, July 14.—J. Skotowe Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton association, has received a telegram from Congressman W. F. Stevenson of South Carolina, saying that the federal reserve board has instructed the federal reserve banks in the cotton states to discount all cotton paper presented by member banks when the paper is secured by sufficient cotton and that the board has authorized the banks to give out a public statement to this effect.

Hickory, July 12.—The Hickory postoffice contest, which started off with four candidates in the field, has now simmered down to a race between R. L. Hefner, assistant postmaster and Herbert H. Miller, city ticket agent, who is said to have the backing of the local Republican organization. William H. Barkley, the most active Republican in these parts, has retired from the contest, the financial inducement not interesting him, and Horace H. Abbe, another local leader, also has stepped aside.

Newport News, Va., July 14.—A large delegation of negroes left here today for Norfolk, instructed to demand representation at the republican state convention. "We are going to get a voice in the councils of the party or we are going to put a negro candidate in the field for governor," said J. Thomas Newsome, who with John Polard of Richmond, is leading the fight against the "lily whites."

Lynchburg, Va., July 11.—Fred O. Shaner, father of 19 children, 18 of whom are living, has, he says, run out of names and he is asking his friends here to suggest a name for the last, a two-months-old boy. The eighteenth child was named Thomas Jefferson by former President Wilson at Mr. Shaw's request two years ago.

Standing among the coffins remains of 7,264 men who died across the sea. Gen. Pershing, their commander, declared: "They fought for eternal right and justice, as did the founders of this great republic. The freedom of mankind was their battery. I saw them go forward weary of body, yet intrepid, resolute and cheerful of spirit. Scornful of danger, they advanced with undaunted courage to save a well-nigh lost cause. Only those who fought with them can ever know the heights of religious devotion and patriotism to which they rose."

Raleigh, July 14.—Fire chiefs in the cities and towns of North Carolina are today called upon by Commissioner Stacey W. Wade to report to the state department of insurance all fires which carry with them losses.

Washington, July 15.—The administration won its battle in Congress today when the senate, responding to President Harding's recent request, recommitted the soldiers bonus bill indefinitely to the finance committee. The vote for recommitment was 47 to 29, and was interpreted by democrats to mean "the death" of the bill, but by republicans to mean postponement for only a few months with no substantial loss to war veteran beneficiaries.

Hickory, July 14.—With the acceptance by the property owners on 10th avenue of a proposition to pay half the cost of a hard surface road from Twelfth street to the eastern limits, the city of Hickory has arranged for the eastern outlet of the Central highway through this city, one of the hardest propositions council has had to face. The avenue runs parallel with the Southern railway and is on its right of way. The big carrier was not interested in improving the avenue and it would never give its consent to spending any money. The hard surface will be 20 feet wide. Tourists coming in from the east can pass under the railroad if they continue west or move along a hard surface road to the north in going to Lenoir and Blowing Rock.