

# Lincoln County News

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## FRED ALLISON OF CHARLOTTE KILLED IN A LIQUOR CAR

Sunday, Christmas Eve, Night, A Whiskey Laden Car, With 50 1-2 Gallons of Booze Gets Into Hands Of Officers of Law—Coroner's Jury Verdict That Allison Was Killed by Companions During Fustian of 30 Shots Fired Between Officers of Law and Three Men In Automobile—Dead Man's Companions Escaped Leaving Him Wounded.

The first thing heard in this community Christmas morning when citizens reached the streets was that a gun battle between three men in a passing liquor laden car and Officers Baxter and Miller had occurred the night before in upper North Brook, at a point near or at Leatherman's store and that a man named Allison from Charlotte, had died at the local hospital from a bullet which entered the right side of his head, lodging in the brain on the left side. The body of the dead man had been placed in Yoder & McLean undertaking establishment for preparation for burial; the car was being held for court, and also the 50 gallons of corn whiskey was being held by Sheriff Abernethy. A coroner's jury was selected and a careful examination of eye witnesses to the tragedy were examined by the jury, which continued its work almost all day. S. Alexander, who acted as stenographer and as a member of the jury, took down the evidence of each witness and required each man testifying to sign his name to his testimony, and from the papers in the case filed with the clerk of Court we give below the evidence introduced and also a copy of the verdict of the jury.

During the course of the coroner's investigation the 38 caliber pistol found at the car occupied by the dead man, was examined by the jury, and they found the six shells in the postol had been fired.

The jury was as follows: S. R. Wagoner, special coroner for Lincoln county; D. C. Williams, G. C. Beam, M. H. Hoyle, Sr., E. C. Baker, S. Alexander. The verdict of the jury was as follows:

"That deceased came to his death from a pistol wound inflicted in his head by one of his companions riding in the car with him, which companion is unknown. The evidence shows that as many as two companions were with him at the time, but all except deceased failed to disclose their identity, and the whereabouts of said companion or companions is unknown.

W. D. Baxter, deputy sheriff of Lincoln county, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

"Don't know deceased. 9:30 p. m. Scott and myself stopped at Joseph Leatherman's store to warm; we were there about 20 minutes. Mr. Miller went to store door and said he saw a car coming. I went out. Our cars were on side of the road. Miller cranked my car and run it beside his car. I stepped out five steps in road, raised my left hand up approaching car within 100 steps. Some one in the car hollered; they were about even with me and began shooting. I stepped back, hit my car fender and fell down. As I got up I began shooting and they continued. I judge about 30 shots were fired. I was shooting a .41 Colts. The car went on about 200 yards and I saw it stop. I got in my car, turned it around and said to someone, 'get in here.' My son got in and we drove down to car sitting on side of road. I got out and went to car and found a man lying on steering wheel. I pulled him over and spoke to him; he did not answer and I got out of his car. The deceased was the man at steering wheel and in driving position. I found on ground a .38 Smith and Wesson pistol, full of empty shells; right door of car open. I put deceased in my car and sent him to hospital after Dr. Edwards had been phoned for and examined him. Deceased was driving five-passenger Essex. I found 10 five-gallon cans of whiskey and one half-gallon fruit jar of whiskey in the back seat of his car. I could see three men in the car when it passed at Leatherman's store. Scott Miller, Yates Leatherman, Jo Leatherman, Cline Baxter and Clyde Yancey were at the store."

Dr. G. B. Crowell, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

"Was called at 12:15 by Miss Murray to see a man who had been shot. The man was in a dying condition from pistol wounds just internal and below right parietal eminence, bleeding profusely from wound, brain substance oozing out of wound. Prepared him for operation and phoned for Dr. L. A. Crowell. Body now in court is body of patient. I asked him his name; he said, 'Fred Allison.' I asked

him who shot him; he answered, 'James Craig.' I took this information in writing. I warned him that he was going to die. I asked him how old he was in order to test his mental condition. He said, 'Twenty-two years.' I asked him how old James Craig was he said, 'Forty-five years.' I asked him where he lived; he replied, 'On North Church street, Charlotte. At another time he lived at Newell Station. I asked him what he did; he said he worked at Charlotte Vulcanizing company. I asked him again, what happened to him; he said, 'A negro named Gibbs hit me with a black jack.' At this time his mind wandered. I never was fully satisfied that he was wholly conscious of his statements.

"While we were undressing him he vomited a bloody mucus which had no odor of whiskey. We found a blue steel automatic in inside coat pocket, magazine had full six shells in it. We have this at the hospital; also \$9 in cash in his pocket. Under the ether anesthesia a four-inch incision was made over right of wound. The skull was fractured and part of a ball was lodged in edge of cranium at point fracture. Brain tissue considerably injured and very free hemorrhage.

"Patient's breathing at this time became irregular and operation stopped. He died in about two minutes, death caused from pistol wounds in back of head and from subsequent hemorrhages. Mr. Scott Miller and Baxter's son and two other boys were with deceased when body was brought to hospital. No statement was made by either, as we were busy with operation. I have seen a lot of close range wounds while in the United States army service in France. No powder burns showing on wound. From my experience it is my opinion that shot was fired in about 20 feet distance. Wound was ragged and indicated that fatal bullet was spread from some impact before striking deceased. Tissue torn and a large clot under wound. We removed fragments of bullet in edge of cranium."

Scott Miller, being sworn, testified to the same facts as Deputy Baxter with this in addition. Speaking of Baxter's fall, he said, 'I thought he was shot. Baxter got up and I saw he was not hurt and I shot at the tire about 100 yards away. They drove on down the road and I saw the car stop. I used a 32 caliber pistol—shot three or four times. Three men in car, all on front seat until the shooting began, then one got out on running board. Five or six shots were fired before I began to shoot."

Yates Leatherman testified to practically the same as the foregoing witnesses.

Joe Leatherman

Joe Leatherman testified to the same as the foregoing, with this in addition: 'Baxter and Miller stopped at my store to warm. Baxter told Miller to drive his car upon the left and turn on the lights. Baxter walked up the road some five steps—the lights from Baxter's car and the approaching car could be seen for 50 or 75 yards. Baxter threw up his hands and hollered halt. Someone said something and about that time began firing. I went back after first two shots were fired and there was 18 or 30 shots fired afterwards. The first shots from the car were fired from the front seat to the right of the driver, across the car to left side of road where Baxter was standing."

Shuford Lingerfelt testified to the same as foregoing witnesses, with the following in addition: 'The man behind the driver shot towards Baxter. Three parties in car, looked like two were on front seat and third person leaning over on back in front seat. Just before they got even with Baxter shot couple times at him past driver."

Clyde Yancey testified the same as the foregoing with slight difference in wording.

Dr. John W. Saine, county physician: 'After removing top of skull, examined brain. I found bullet passed through right lobe of cerebrum and entered left lobe of cerebrum and lodged about the center of left lobe, which would be sufficient within itself to cause death. Found no other wounds on body. Removed bullet and delivered to the coroner. Judged it to be 32 caliber size. Ball seemed to have been deflected upward after striking skull. It is my opinion that she shot was fired from right side of skull. From my examination of wound it is my opinion it was fired at short range. I found wound large and ragged, at point of penetration, which indicates short range."

Craig and Owens Arrested In Charlotte; Then Released

The Charlotte Observer of Wednesday morning says of the above affair: Jimmie Craig and Ed Owens, reported to have been in the automobile with Fred Allison when the latter was shot Sunday night in Catawby county, were arrested early Tuesday morning by the local authorities

but released later in the day when it was learned from Lincolnton that there was no evidence on which to hold them, the release being upon instructions from Sheriff Abernethy. Both men are reported to have denied being in the party.

Mrs. W. S. Allison, mother of the dead man, was very ill at the time of the death of her son, but it was reported last night that she was in much better condition. The body of Fred Allison was buried in Elmwood cemetery Tuesday morning, funeral services being held in the Harry undertaking establishment on North Tryon street with Rev. S. B. Lyerly pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, officiating. Additional services were held at the side of the grave at Elmwood. The pallbearers were Ben Withers, Fred Bell, John Muse, Charlie Muse, Will Pitts and Archie Templeton.

Mr. Allison was a native of the county, having been born in Mallard Creek township, near Derita. The family has been living in the city for several years. He is survived by his parents, four brothers and one sister.

For more than a year he was connected with the Rust Motor company, acting in the capacity of a mechanic. He left that concern about a month ago. He is reported to have been an exceptionally good mechanic and has borne a good reputation in this city. It is said, Lincoln Sheriff Talks

Allison and three other men passed through Lincolnton county Sunday afternoon, according to a statement over long distance telephone to The Observer last night from Sheriff Abernethy, of Lincoln county, and were observed by Deputies Baxter and Miller, who suspected that the men were going after whiskey. Sheriff Abernethy stated that the deputies stationed themselves near a small store about 18 miles northwest of Lincolnton, and awaited the car's return. There were, he said, about eight or 10 men in the vicinity of the store when the Essex driven by Allison appeared.

Sheriff Abernethy said that the men were on the left side of the car when it passed them, and that the shooting was begun by the men in the car. He also stated that the bullet found in Allison's brain, according to the testimony at the inquest, was a .38-caliber pistol bullet. This statement was corroborated in a statement made to The Observer by long distance by Dr. Gordon Crowell, of the Lincolnton hospital, where Allison was taken after the shooting, and where he died, and by S. W. McLean, Lincolnton undertaker, who stated over long distance that he heard this testimony at the inquest held Monday in his store.

Sheriff Abernethy stated to The Observer that the deputies were armed with 41 and 32 caliber pistols. Both deputies, Sheriff Abernethy said, returned the fire of the men in the car.

Sheriff Abernethy was asked by The Observer why he ordered the release of Craig and Owens, who were held by Charlotte police as possibly implicated in the affair. He stated that the only evidence he had to connect them with the affair were the dying statements of Allison, to the effect that 'Jim Craig shot me,' and that the two men were with him in the car, and after making this statement, Sheriff Abernethy explained, Allison said that a negro had hit him with a blackjack.

Craig and Owens were not held by the Charlotte police on the request of Sheriff Abernethy of Lincolnton, but were taken into custody on the initiative of the local officers, after a telephone conversation with the Lincolnton authorities.

Rumor in Charlotte yesterday of the story of the shooting stated that Allison's car was following two other cars, said to be Cadillacs, and it was alleged that all three were loaded with whiskey. The two cars in front passed the Leatherman store, in Lincolnton county, and when Allison's car was halted by the deputies the firing began. When Allison was shot his car, it is said, ran down into a ditch on the side of the road, and two men with him, who are at present unknown, left him and ran across a field in the darkness. They are rumored to have secured conveyance to Gastonia over the Piedmont and Northern railway.

Allison also is reported to have had a considerable amount of money on his person at the time he was shot. Some reports have placed the amount at near a thousand dollars.

## BETHLEHEM LOCALS

Mrs. L. J. Hoyle is spending the Christmas holidays with her son, Mr. Tom Baxter of Bessemer City.

Mr. J. W. Hoyle and family of near Lincolnton spent Sunday with Mrs. Hoyle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Dellinger.

Mr. A. M. Snider, teacher of North Brook Consolidated school is spending the holidays with home folks in Davidson County.

Miss Madeline Dellinger spent Monday night with Miss Mae Sorrels. Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Sorrels and daughter, spent Christmas day at the home of Mr. Tom Baxter of Bessemer City.

Mrs. T. H. Baxter is right sick at this writing.

Mrs. S. S. Harrelson is spending several days with her daughter, Mrs. C. E. Carpenter.

Mrs. Claude Biggerstaff is right sick with influenza.

## STATE CAPITAL QUIET BEFORE COMING OF SOLONS

Raleigh, Dec. 26.—Naturally at the state capital this year there is nothing much after Christmas before the legislature, and the latter is a full week off from tomorrow. The caucus is to be held on the night previous—no one has heard whether Tim Bowie will again eject newspapermen and interested observers or not—but the caucus is rather cut and dried save for the matter of a few assembly clerks.

Chief attention is probably being paid by the members-elect to the matter of drafting legislation, some of which, as word of it drifts in, would appear to be including a part of the holiday hang-over.

Reduction of the personal property exemption from \$300 to 100 is coming back, too. Burgundy of Northampton is understood to have recruited some strength for his proposition in the house and it is known that one of the new senators—Castelle of a third district—is an out-and-out opponent of freeing so large a class of the population from taxation.

## FORMER PRESIDENT WILSON IS SIXTY-SIX YEARS OLD

New York, Dec. 26.—A delegation of five from the Woodrow Wilson foundation will await upon former President Wilson at his home in Washington Thursday to extend birthday greetings to him on the 66th anniversary of his birth. Those in the delegation will be Hamilton Holt, executive director; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Mrs. Charles E. Simonson, Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany and Mrs. Carolina Ruzic-Rees.

## NEW UNIT OF ARMY RESERVE CORPS

Asheville, Dec. 26.—Another unit of the army reserve corps has been authorized for North Carolina in orders recently issued from the headquarters of the 63rd Cavalry Division, Organized Reserves at New Orleans. The unit now being added to the list of North State organizations is the 463rd Field Artillery Battalion which will constitute the divisional artillery of the 63rd Cavalry Division. Headquarters of the battalion will be at Charlotte. The entire personnel, enlisted as well as commissioned, will be mounted to facilitate fast maneuver. Equipment will be French '97's or the equivalent American 3 inch gun.

Captain A. D. Chipman, Cavalry, U. S. A. whose headquarters are at Asheville has been designated by the division commander as the acting executive officer of the battalion with instructions to complete its organization. Twenty-nine artillery officers are needed to this end and these officers will be selected for their knowledge of gunnery and horses and they must have the speed and endurance to keep up with the fast work of a mounted division.

Former world war artillery officers wishing information relative to securing commissions in this division should get in touch with the acting executive officer in Asheville. The artillery is just being organized and the main call is for artillerymen but there are still a limited number of cavalry vacancies in the grade of captain and first lieutenant.

## HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI LUNCHEON

The First Annual Alumni Luncheon Enjoyed by Large Number of Young Graduates of Lincolnton School.

The first Annual Alumni Luncheon of the Lincolnton school proved a most enjoyable affair to the more than 75 present, last Tuesday night at Kiwanis Hall.

The members of classes of each year back to 1908 were introduced to the banqueters and enthusiasm ran high. The banquet was presided over by Miss Roberta Love and the Menu was prepared and planned by the members of the 1923 class.

## Menu and Program

"Make the coming hour overflow with joy"

—Shakespeare.

Grapefruit

"They eat, they drink, and in communion sweet, Quaff immortality and joy."

—Milton.

Creamed Chicken on Toast

Green Peas Creamed Irish Potatoes Sliced Ham,

Hot Biscuit Coffee Butter

"The daintiest last, to make the end most sweet."

Ambrosia Cake

Why wish for more?

"Wishing of all employments is the worst."

—Dr. E. Young

The program:

"No pleasure endures unseasoned, by variety."

—P. Syrus

Welcome to the Class of 1923

President of Alumnae Association Miss Roberta Love

Response

President of the Class of 1923 Mr. Alton Wood.

The Alumni Association Dr. Gordon Crowell

The High School Mr. H. F. Krauss

## RECEIVE SEVERE KNIFE WOUND IN HIS NECK

Gastonia, Dec. 26.—N. G. Cloniger, superintendent of the Gray and Parkdale mills here, is in a local hospital suffering from a severe knife wound on his neck inflicted by Bob Pearson, a well-known character of Kings Mountain, about 8 o'clock last night in Dallas.

It was first thought that Mr. Cloniger's wound might prove fatal, but reports from the hospital today are to the effect that he is getting along nicely and barring possible complications his recovery is expected.

## GOD LOVES YOU!

Weary, tired, gloomy, glad or cheerful, look up and smile. God is love. God loves you. Think over these things with something more than thoughts.

"God is more near to our souls than our own bodies."

"The Lord thy God is in the midst of thee, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over thee with joy, He will rest in his love; He will joy over thee, with singing."

"A root set in the finest soil, in the best climate, and blessed with all that sun and air and rain can do for it, is not in so sure a way of growth to perfection as every man who may be whose spirit aspires after all that which God is ready and infinitely desirous to give him. For the sun stretches not the springing bud that stretches toward him with half that certainty is God, the Source of all good, communicates Himself to the soul that longs to partake of Him."

"Be quiet, look up, smile back to God His love smile. We are all of us the offspring of God, more nearly related to God than to one another, for in Him we live and move and have our being.—Rev. John T. Wilds.

## Nearly 500,000 English Words

"The English vocabulary has grown to great size," says Professor Clark S. Northup, of Cornell University, one of the contributors to The New Universities Dictionary and goes on to add: "the number of words found in old English literature does not exceed thirty thousand; recent dictionaries have listed more than four hundred thousand, mostly of foreign origin. Yet most writers use mainly English words."

Shakespeare used ninety per cent. of English words; the English Bible contains ninety-four per cent; Milton eighty one per cent; Addison eighty-two per cent; Tennyson eighty-eight per cent. Most of our shortest and simplest words are of native origin."

Getting Him Told.

A real small man was seated in a crowded car, when a very large woman squeezed in beside him. He said "Gee, I wished they would charge according to size," the large lady turned and said, "If they did, they'd pick you up."

## THOUSANDS SAW LINCOLNTON DEC 23

GREAT CROWDS OF HOLIDAY SHOPPERS SATURDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Saturday before Christmas the largest crowd of holiday shoppers visited Lincolnton in the history of the town. That Lincolnton is a shopping center and draws big crowds was demonstrated on Dec. 23 to the satisfaction of all. It was a throng of folks from all over this section and they spent the day, or the inquest portion of it here shopping and in the afternoon the crowd gathered at the east front of the court house to see the awarding of the gifts by the committee of business men, or the judges, and this event was the center of interest for about 2 hours, during which 9 presents were awarded to the following by the judges under the rules as published last week. The lucky persons were:

Ford Touring, Mrs. Plato Miller, 5-Piece Parlor Suite, D. P. Rhodes, Eagle Range, Hinkle Beam, Kitchen Cabinet, J. A. Matthey, New Home Machine, M. L. Hoyle, Floor Lamp, D. A. Williams, Art Square, Jack Mauney, White Iron Bed, J. T. Keever, Set Bluebird ware, Jack Goodson.

Following the judges' awarding, which was carried out in the best of order, the great crowd dispersed and finished their Christmas shopping, and during the balance of the day the shops were literally packed with Christmas shoppers bent on making friends and loved one, especially children happy.

The shoppers bought not only useful presents but great quantities of toys, various stores having stocked heavily of toys, and buyers cleaned up most of the Christmas goods, to the satisfaction of the business men, who had anticipated their every want.

## NICKNAMES OF STATES.

A question often asked in vain is: "What are the nicknames of the States?" Following is a complete list, taken from The World Almanac.

- Ala.—"Cotton," "Lizard."
- Ariz.—"Sunset," "Apache."
- Ark.—"Bear," "Bowie."
- Cal.—"Golden," "El Dorado."
- Col.—"Centennial," "Silver."
- Conn.—"Nutmeg," "Freestone."
- Del.—"Diamond," "Blue Hen."
- Fla.—"Peninsular," "Everglade."
- Ga.—"Cracker," "Buzzard."
- Idaho—"Gen."
- Ill.—"Sugar," "Prairie."
- Ind.—"Hoosier."
- Iowa—"Hawkeye."
- Kan.—"Sunflower," "Jayhawk."
- Ky.—"Blue Grass," "Coke-Cracker."

- La.—"Pelican," "Creole."
- Me.—"Pine Tree," "Old Dirigo."
- Md.—"Old Line," "Cockade."
- Mass.—"Bay," "Old Colony."
- Mich.—"Wolverine," "Auto."
- Minn.—"Gopher," "North Star."
- Miss.—"Bayou," "Eagle."
- Mo.—"Ozark," "Iron Mountain."
- Mont.—"Stub Toe," "Bonanza."
- Neb.—"Antelope," "Black Water."
- Nev.—"Silver," "Sage Brush."
- N. H.—"Granite."
- N. J.—"Jersey Blue," "Garden."
- New Spain

- N. H.—"Sunshine," "Spanish."
- N. Y.—"Empire," "Excelsior."
- N. C.—"Old North," "Tar-pentine," "Tar Heel."
- N. D.—"Flickertail," "Sioux."
- Ohio—"Buckeye."
- Okl.—"Boomer."
- Ore.—"Beaver," "Web-Foot."
- Pa.—"Keystone," "Steel," "Coal."
- R. I.—"Little Rhody," "Plantation."
- S. C.—"Palmetto."
- S. D.—"Sunshine," "Swigecat."
- Tenn.—"Big Bend," "Volunteer," "Hog-and-Hominy."
- Tex.—"Lone Star," "Beef."
- Utah—"Desert," "Mormon."
- Vt.—"Green Mountain."
- Va.—"Old Dominion," "Mother."
- Wash.—"Evergreen," "Chinook."
- W. Va.—"Panhandle."
- Wis.—"Badger," "Copper."
- Wyo.—"Equality" (Suffrage Pioneer).

## THE FAST TRAIN.

One day an argument occurred over a fast train and one man said, "I rode on a train that went so fast that telephone poles looked like fence rails."

The other man said, "than that nothing, I rode on a train that went so fast that when we passed that truck farm down yonder the tomatoes, cabbage and the other vegetables looked like vegetable soup."

## THE OPENING FOR HIM

Fresh Youth—You told me there would be an opening here for me in the fall and now you say you don't care to employ me.

Banker—There is an opening for you, right over there—the door.

## Trickling Down Street.

A teacher explaining to her class that "trickled" meant "run" and that "tale" was a narrative, asked John to give her a sentence using both. This is what John said: "The little dog trickled down the street with a tin can tied to his narrative."

## SHORT NEWS ITEMS

New York, Dec. 26.—Battered and scarred by heavy weather, 14 ships plowed slowly into quarantine from early morning until late afternoon today, the skippers of them all reporting a vicious never-ending battle with a series of lashing hurricanes which seemed to shake the Atlantic to the bottom.

Gastonia, Dec. 26.—Four of the five white prisoners at the Gastonia county jail, this city, while being allowed freedom in the runaway at 7 o'clock Saturday night, escaped from their bonds by sawing bars from a window. One prisoner, a young man named Wright, who was serving a sentence for forgery gaining his freedom, went to the home of his father in south-west Gastonia. Through the influence of the parent the young man returned.

Winston-Salem, Dec. 26.—William Melchor, aged about 40 years, was fatally injured about 2:30 o'clock this afternoon when he was struck by the propeller of an airplane as the machine landed on the aviation field on the Lexington road, a short distance south of the city. His shoulder was broken and his left leg severed just above the knee. Death followed an hour later.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 26.—Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., who is wanted there in connection with the Morehouse parish kidnapping and the finding of two mutilated bodies in Lake La Fourche, was arrested here today at the Johns Hopkins university—Brady institute, where he is taking a post graduate course. The arrest followed receipt of a telegram from Gov. John M. Parker, of Louisiana, requesting the local police to arrest McKoin on a murder charge. After questioning by police officials, Dr. McKoin was locked up to await further action by Louisiana authorities.

Gastonia, Dec. 26.—Announcement is made today that the contract for Gastonia's new Masonic temple will be let within the next few weeks and that work on the temple will be rushed to an early completion. The temple will be a handsome brick three-story building to be erected on property owned by the Gastonia Temple association, a corporation which received its charter some weeks ago. The authorized capital stock is \$100,000. The movement for the building of the temple had its origin in Gaston lodge, No. 369, A. E. and A. M. some years ago. A lot on Marietta street was bought. It was recently sold at a handsome profit and a larger lot secured on South street adjoining the residence of Mr. W. W. Glenn. The lot is 60x220. The temple will be 55x175.

New York, Dec. 26.—Charged with failure to warm the homes of his 72 tenant families, Jacob Seltoroff, owner of four East Side apartment houses, today was sentenced to the Tombs for 60 days when he was unable to pay a \$600 fine imposed by Magistrate George W. Simpson. The magistrate refused to entertain the landlord's plea that he had been unable to buy coal.

## Reckless Temerity.

"Have you ever stopped to think how many thousand germs there are on a dollar bill?"

"Oh, yes," replied Mr. Jobson, sighing deeply, "but whenever I see a man with a big roll of bills in his hand I long to share his peril."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Johnnie was to have a party, and his mother insisted on his inviting a boy whom a disliked. After much urging, Johnnie promised. The party came off, but Willie did not appear.

"Now, Johnnie, did you invite him?" asked Johnnie's mother.

"Yes, I did! Yes, ma'am, I invited him," answered Johnnie. "I invited him," he added reflectively, "and I dared him to come."—Ex.

Everywhere in the cotton belt the farmer is studying ways to combat the boll weevil. One general remedy that is being considered, and wisely, is to depend as little as possible on the crop that the boll weevil attacks. In dealing with the weevil discretion is the better part of valor.

A teacher explaining to her class that "trickled" meant "run" and that "tale" was a narrative, asked John to give her a sentence using both. This is what John said: "The little dog trickled down the street with a tin can tied to his narrative."