"THE UNION COUNTY PAPER—EVERYBODY READS IT" "THE UNION COUNTY PAPER—EVERYBODY NEEDS IT"

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CHARGING ABDUCTION, FATHER GETS DAMAGES

Holmes Brothers, Who Aided Miss Little in Elopement, Assessed $275 — Doings of Court.

A runaway marriage, a mother pleading with her 16-year old daughter not to leave home, a chase by an irate father, and a physical encounter between the father and the bridegroom, were some of the high spots in the Little vs. Holmes case, which ended late Wednesday afternoon with a verdict of $275 for the plaintiff.

Abduction was charged against the Holmes brothers, M. C. and Baxter Holmes, who assisted the 16-year-old daughter of Mr. J. M. Little of Marshville township, in eloping with Mr. Henry Griffin, on Jan. 14, 1919.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, who have been living in Florida since their marriage, were witnesses in the case. Mrs. Griffin is an attractive young lady, and to the casual observer it appeared that she had won for the defendants in the case the sympathy of the court spectators. The plaintiff was sueing to recover $5,000 damages, and although the sum of only $275 was allowed, the verdict occasioned some surprise.

The plaintiff contended that at the time of the elopement he was living at Marshville for the purpose of keeping his daughter, Miss Gertrude Little, in school. She was only sixteen years of age, "without knowledge," so the defense claimed, "or experience of the world, living with and being care for by the plaintiff." On Jan. 14, the two defendants, Messrs. M. C. and Baxter Holmes, came to the plaintiff's home in an automobile, and abducted so the plaintiff maintained, Miss Gertrude, while the mother beseeched that her daughter be not carried away. The defendants, so the court was told, falsely represented to the young girl's mother that they were merely taking her to Monroe to do some shopping, and that they would bring her back that evening. The mother, it was testified, begged the young men not to take her daughter away.

In their rebuttal, the Holmes brothers declared that they went to Mr. Little's home for his daughter, Miss Gertrude, at the request of Mr. Henry Griffin, and Miss Little; that Mrs. Little did try to get her daughter not to take the trip, but that her daughter replied that she was going, "she had been treated like a dog long enough." The plaintiff, the defense declared, did request that her daughter not be taken away, but did not order them not to do so.

Previous to going to the Little home, the Holmes brothers said that they had agreed with Henry Griffin to make a trip to Chesterfield, S. C. After Miss Little got in the car, Mr. Griffin was picked up further down the road, and the party journeyed to Chesterfield.

When Mr. Little arrived home, he was told of his daughter's leaving. He set out immediately for the South Carolina town, arriving there shortly after his daughter and her prospective husband. Finding his daughter, the plaintiff, instead of attempting to take his daughter in charge, drew a knife, according to the defendants, on Henry Griffin. It was then that he was struck by Griffin. The plaintiff, in turn, knocked Griffin down with a chair. Griffin, on getting up, knocked Mr. Little in the head with a poker, which he managed to find, and then with his bride-to-be left for Cheraw, where they were married. Following the ceremony, they went to Florida, where they have since been residing.

The jury in this case was composed of the following: Messrs. Harvey Baucom, A. M. Baucom, S. B. Martin, H. A. Helms, R. V. Lockhart, W. M. Sell, J. B. Ashcraft, L. C. Polk, E. L. May, L. L. Moore, Ellis Griffin and H. H. Rollins.

Haigler Takes Non-Suit.

Henry Haigler of Goose Creek took a non-suit in his case against Clifford Fowler, sheriff elect, and others. The plaintiff was seeking to recover damages for injuries he sustained when shot by a member of a still-raiding party. Haigler was taxed with the costs.

Half Right, Anyway

In the case of J. D. Brooks vs. W. M. Matthews, Judge McElroy, in his charge to the jury, stated that there were two issues, as follows: (1) Is the plaintiff indebted to the defendandt; and (2) is the defendant indebted to the plaintiff. To both of these questions, the jury replied: "Nothing." Judge McElroy smiled in a congratulatory way, and Mr. Frank Armfield, who appeared for one of the parties to the suit, laughingly remarked that the jury was at least half right. Mr. Brooks was sueing Mr. Matthews, who is a lieutenant in the Charlotte fire department, for damages alleged to have been the outgrowth of an automobile trade. Evidence brought out the fact that both cars were second-hand, and on the way to the junk pile at the time of the trade, both plaintiff and defendant testifying that they were forced to spend money to get their cars in good running condition.

Courts of Old.

For the first time in several years, Sheriff John Griffith acted as officer of the court the other day. He usually prefers to allot this duty to one of his deputies. The sheriff seemed to take a real pleasure in his work, and was solicitous of the attendants as of old. In one case a juror was needed. "Call out a man," Judge McElroy ordered the sheriff. Knowing Union county folks, the sheriff felt that the very man he summoned might not be in a position to sit on a jury for a few days, so he quietly walked among those present until he found a man who had the time to spare. His choice was accepted by both sides.

In discussing court judges, the Sheriff grew reminiscent the other day. "Judge Cook," he remarked, "was a holy terror to the lawyers and the officers of the court. At one term here he was especially grouchy. He lambasted me right and left, nor did he show any mercy to the lawyers. The late Ney McNeeley, and John J. Parker, both bright young men, who had just started practicing, were appearing for a man who had been convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for some offense. John arose to implore Judge Cook to reduce the sentence. 'I'm not going to do it,' said the Judge, 'so you might as well sit down.' Then Ney bobbed up. 'Sit down,' shouted Judge Cook, who was now mad as a hornet. 'You haven't got any more sense than John Parker!'"

Stewart Acting As Clerk

The efficient clerk of the court, Mr. R. W. Lemmond, having been called to Charlotte by the death of his brother, Mr. J. E. Stewart, deputy clerk, has been acting in his place the past few days. Mr. Stewart is no novice at the court house game, having served for years as Register of Deeds and chairman of the county board of commissioners.

Many Cases of Interest

Several cases of interest, and others involving large amounts, are on the calendar for this two-weeks term. In point of interest, the case of Shute vs. Shute is probably the most important. This action is a revival of the old ginning cases that appeared in the courts several years ago, and the plaintiff, Mr. J. E. Shute, is seeking to get $15,000 from the defendant, Mr. J. R. Shute. Feb Helms also has a case on the docket against Al Trull who inflicted several knife wounds on him a few months ago. A score or more actions against the Seaboard will likely be heard, among them being Benton vs. Seaboard, this being a suit to recover damages for the death of Mr. Wiley Benton, son of the plaintiff. Mr. Bernard Davis, an ex-soldier, who was wounded and gassed in France, will attempt to secure $15,000 damages from Tyler B. Dunlap, an Anson county citizen, at whose saw mill the plaintiff received a broken leg which has incapacitated him from working for several months. Rebecca Bell Crump, widow of the man who was electrocuted at Sikes' shop about a year ago, has a suit against the Sikes Co. and the city of Monroe.

CANNING HIS SPEECH

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic nominee for vice-president, making a campaign speech for a phonograph record.

NEW SALEM MAN CAUGHT WITH QUANTITY "PUMMY"

J. Ellis Griffin Bound Over to Superior Court on Charge of Blockading.

J. Ellis Griffin, of New Salem township, is out under a five hundred-dollar bond for his appearance at the next term of federal court on a charge of blockading. At his preliminary hearing, which was held before Esq. M. L. Flow the other day, officers testified to the finding of two barrels of peach "pummies" concealed in brush near Griffin's home, and to the seizure of several bushels of fruit on his wagon; which, they said, he was taking to a neighbor's home to have ground. His horse, mule and wagon were also seized.

Officers told of finding where Griffin had dumped thirty bushels of rotten apples and peaches into Charlie Mills' hog pen. In his smoke house, several jugs, one of which contained a small quantity of brandy, were also discovered. The revenue men lay out all night to catch their man, it is said. About nine o'clock on the night previous to his capture, Griffin drove into the yard of his home with a load of fruit, which he had purchased from a neighbor. This was the fruit he was found in the act of carrying to his neighbor's to be ground the next morning. His still, if he had one, was not found.

Born Sunday to Rev. and Mrs. Zeb Caudle, a son.

MISTREATMENT ALLEGED BY DISABLED SOLDIERS

Forty-two Tubercular Ex - Service Men Petition Governor for Better Conditions at Sanatorium

According to a letter this paper has received, if a disabled soldier receiving treatment for tuberculosis at the state sanatorium make a complaint to the officials in charge of the institution, he is told that "trains pass the sanatorium, and there are no strings tied to him." The original of this letter, which was mailed to Governor Bickett on June 16th, was signed by forty-two ex-service men patients at the hospital.

Governor Bickett was appealed to in an effort to secure what the ex-service men term unsanitary conditions remedied. A Charlotte man, who is a responsible person, has informed interested parties that no effort had been made to clean-up the place when he left there about two weeks ago.

This letter reads, as follows:

"We, as disabled soldiers, believe that we are not getting the proper treatment for tuberculosis, and hereby appeal to you on behalf of all disabled men at this institution. Every ex-service man that has been sent to this institution is, and has been dissatisfied, and we hope that you will take the necessary steps to remedy the existing conditions.

"This is the most unsanitary place that civilized people ever lived in, especially sick people. Flies are here in swarms, because the screens and doors are not properly fixed. They are extremely annoying during the rest hour in the afternoon, making rest impossible; and at night the mosquitoes and bed-bugs keep us awake. The dinning room literally swarms with flies all the time, no effort being made to rid the dinning hall of them. Every article of food is first sampled by them, and then we get it. It is no uncommon sight to see goat manure on the front porch of the dining hall.

"The dishes are positively filthy, and at every meal we get some dishes that by scraping the edges off we find the remains of the previous meal, such as coffee rims on the cups, and dried grease on the plates, far from being appetizing; and, we might add, sickening.

"The food itself consists mostly of canned vegetables and eggs. One morning the breakfast consisted of cereal, coffee, cheese, prunes, and cold bread. We frequently get such meals that are not only unappetizing, but often not properly cooked, such as spoiled fish, and pork with an odor to it that is sickening. To cite an example of unsanitary food, one of the farmers killed a hog and brought it to the sanatorium, and deposited it at the back door of the kitchen. It lay there all day, covered with flies. The farmer stands ready to swear to the above statement.

"One of the doctors has from twenty-five to fifty Airdale dogs on the place all the time, and their barks and howls seriously disturb our rest at night. Repeated efforts have been made to bring about better conditions by appealing to the staff, and they have on different occasions promised us better food and service, but on the contrary, conditions have grown suddenly worse, and we are appealing to you as the last resort.

"The attitude towards the patients by the staff, is to say the least, contemptible. When a just complaint is made to the office by a patient, he is informed that trains pass the senatorium, and there are no strings tied to him.

"We, as North Carolinians, as property owners, as disabled men, and as tax-payers, feel that this institution is a disgrace to the state of North Carolina; a blot on her map that should either be remedied or eliminated, and we feel that you will take the necessary steps towards better conditions here and make the place fit for tubrcular women and children that may have to take treatment here."

S. Wallace Howell, and ex-service man of Charlotte, who signed the original letter, told Major B. H. Hinde, a representative of the war risk bureau of Washington, that these same conditions nevailed at the hospital when he left a few weeks ago. Major Hinde, discussing this matter with Mr. Manning, the field agent of the United States vocational training board, was told that working in and around Concord among the soldiers, he had found a number of men who had made the same complaint to him, and stated that they would not return to the sanatorium under any circumstances, that if the government could not provide them with proper hospital treatment, they preferred to take their chances at home.

Presbyterian Church Notes.

"O come let us worship, let us bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."

10 A. M. Sunday school. W. A. Henderson, Superintendent.

11 A. M. Worship and sermon. The third sermon on the "New Heavens and the New Earth." Topic—"When shall these things be?" and "Who shall inherit them?"

A cordial invitation is extended to all.—Reporter.

Central Methodist Church.

Rev. Jno. W. Moore, pastor.

Sunday school, 10, a. m., conducted by Prof. R. W. Allen.

Preaching at 11 o'clock by Rev. Caleb W. Hoyle.

Let all members be present and the public is invited.

COTTON NOW SELLING FAR BELOW ITS COST

American Cotton Association Issues Statement on the Market Outlook for Next Fall.

"Telegrams pouring into headquarters of the American cotton Association from every section of the South plainly demonstrate the fact that it is fully realized by the agricultural and commercial interests of the South that they are feeling the most serious conditions that have confronted the South since 1914; that regardless of the enormous demand for raw cotton and the insufficient supply, cotton is selling to-day at a price far below the cost of production," says a statement issued by the American cotton association.

"The mills in England and a large portion of America," the statement continues, "have gone on one-third time, regardless of the record-breaking period of prosperity which they have just passed through and unheard-of earnings made.

"The markets of cental Euope, notwithstanding their pressing needs for low-grade cotton, are unable to obtain same.

Cotton States Organized.

"The fourteen cotton - producing states are organized and united as never before and are determined to fight to the last ditch for a square deal. Under no conditions will they sacrifice their cotton crop and are determined not to permit a repetition of the crime of 1914. It is prepared to defend itself to-day. Cotton will go into the warehouses and the lands will be entirely planted in food crops this fall and next spring, if necessary to do this to prevent the commercial murder which is being attempted.

"In response to the urgent requests referred to from every section of the cotton belt, a call has been issued by president Wannamaker of the American cotton association for a convention of the national board of directors, finance and executive committees, and members of the association, to be held in Montgomery, Alabama, September 1st, 2nd and 3rd, for the purpose of recommending a minimum price for cotton and cotton-seed, and of forming plans and waging a campaign in every section of every county and parish in the cotton-producing states for planting the largest acreage in small grain this fall and food and feed crops next springs, ever planted in the history of the South, it being decided to follow this course, after investigation as to the needs of the world for food and feed crops."

"On account of the enormous shortage of labor in the South this will enable the cultivation of these crops to advantage as they require far less labor and experience in cultivation and do not embrace the great hazardous risk in production that cotton does.

"Systematic efforts will be put into force that will assure the absolute certainty of the largest reduction in cotton acreage for 1921 ever made in the South.

"The national finance committee, of which Mr. B. F. McLeod, of Charleston, S. C., is chairman, with representatives from every cotton-producing states in the union, will meet with the national executive committee on September 1st and prepare a detailed report to be submitted to the national board of directors when that board convenes on September 2nd.

Divided into Departments.

"On account of the enormous increase in the scope of the work of the American cotton Association the board of directors will subdivide and systematize the work into various departments, electing one of the most prominent and successful business men of the South as vice-president and general manager. They will also elect experts to head the various departments, each with a full workign force, so as to absolutely assure the fact that the American cotton association will become a powerful and potential factor in the agricultural and commercial life of the South and assure the placing of the handling and marketing of the American cotton crop upon an efficient and economical business basis.

"The report of the special committee on co-operative marketing will be given special consideration at this convention and plans will be put into effect and force to assure the uniform adoption of the co-operative plan for handling and marketing the cotton crop throughout the entire cotton belt, thus absolutely assuring the handling and marketing of the American cotton crop upon a strictly efficient and economical business basis; the erection of sufficient warehouses in each and every county and parish to warehouse the cotton produced therein, the cotton moving from gin house to the warehouse and the sale only being made when the minimum price recommended by the American cotton association has been reached, thus assuring the producer a profitable price for his cotton, based upon supply and demand and the cost of production.

"A special committee of the leading representatives from every cotton-producing state will be appointed for the purpose of holding conference with the federal reserve banking officials and also leading financial institutions so as to absolutely assure the securing of the consolidation of necessary financial arrangements to enable the producers to market and warehouse their cotton, stretching the sale of same over a full twelve months period and only selling when the minimum price named by the American cotton association has been reached.

Most Costly Crop.

"The committee on the cost of production reports that, even with ideal harvesting weather, this will be by far the most costly crop ever produced. Prices being now quoted on the exchanges are far below the cost of production.

"It will also be recommended that low grade cotton be not harvested but be permitted to remain in the field for fertilizing purposes and for the purpose of feeding cattle. This recommendation will receive most careful consideration of the convention and definite plans will be formed as to the best course to pursue, so as to assure the absolute certainty of all low-grade cotton.

"The South is thoroughly organized. It is aroused as never before. It realizes that, regardless of the fact that the manufacturers world-wide, have made enormous earnings, and regardless of the fact that there is a great shortage of raw cotton the South is facing a crucial period in its commercial life and that there is a concerted effort to beat down the price of cotton.

"Telegrams and letters are being received showing that the convention will be largely attended. As a result of the thorough organization of the American cotton association there is no question but that plans formed at this convention will be put into effect and force, without variation, in every section of the cotton belt.

Face Drastic Reduction.

"We are face to face with the absolute certainty of the greatest acreage in food and feed crops this fall and the coming spring ever planted in the South and the most drastic reduction in cotton acreage in the last fifty years. The yield from the coming crop will be far below the latest indicated yield. Marked deterioration is setting in throughout the length and breadth of the cotton belt. The low grade will be left in the field for cattle and for compost, so that we are absolutely certain of not only another short crop, but the shortest crop produced in the last six years.

"Through these and other means which are certain to be adopted the intended commercial murder of the South will be prevented, the crime of 1914 will not be repeated and the life of the South will be saved. 1921 will mark the shortest crop produced in the last quarter of a century."

LEGION CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT WILMINGTON

Monroe Man to Preside Over Second Annual Session of Ex-Service Men of State.

Raleigh, August 26.—The American Legion, Department of North Carolina, consisting of 112 posts and six thousand ex-service men, will hold its second annual state convention in Wilmington, September 3rd-4th.

The first session of the meeting presided over by Department Commander John Beasley, of Monroe, will be held at one o'clock in the afternoon, Friday, at which time the convention will appoint the various committees and register the delegates. The addresses on the first day of the session will be by R. G. Cholmely-Jones, director of bureau of war risk insurance, Washington, D. C., and C. G. Schultz, director of vocational training, Atlanta, Ga.

Saturday's session will begin at nine thirty in morning. At this meeting an election of officers for the coming year and delegates to the national convention at Cleveland, O., will be held; also a place will be voted on as to where the third annual convention will meet.

The department desires every post of the legion in North Carolina to be represented by delegates as questions of importance will be decided upon at this convention. Among them the matter of electing a whole time department adjutant and a finance officer at a salary that will justify a man to devote his entire time to the work of the American Legion of this state, the publishing of a semi-monthly magazine by the North Carolina department, the Fordney extra compensation bill which is expected to come up in the next session of Congress, universal military training, education and good roads.

Dr. E. C. Brooks, state superintendent of public instruction has accepted an invitation to address the convention on Saturday, September 4th. National Commander Franklin D'Oliver of Philadelphia, and Hon. James H. Pou of Raleigh, have also been invited to speak at the state meeting of ex-service men.

The present officers of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion are: John Beasley, Commander, Monroe, N. C.; Walter Clark, Jr., vice commander, Charlotte, N. C.; Cale K. Burgess, acting adjutant and finance officer, Raleigh, N. C.; Daniel W. Terry, publicity officer, Raleigh, N. C., and F. O. Clarkson, historian, Charlotte, N. C.

Marriage of Mr. Glenn and Miss Helms

Mr. D. E. Glenn, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Glenn, and Miss Lea Mae Helms, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Helms, both of Waxhaw, were married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride. A large number of friends were present. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Y. T. Shehane of Wingate. After the ceremony, the guests were served supper. The young couple will make their home near Waxhaw.

RAYMOND WALTERS, LOST FOR 15 YEARS, IS FOUND

Mr. M. A. Walters Receives Card From His Son Postmarked Vera Cruz, Mexico.

Hundreds of people in this section rejoice with Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Walters, of Buford township, in the finding of their long lost son, Mr. J. Raymond Walters, who disappeared over fifteen years ago. A card received from him the other day, which was postmarked Vera Cruz, Mexico, was the first word received from him during this time. Mr. Walters lost no time in wiring his son to come home at once for a visit. It was twenty-nine years ago when Mr. Walters left for Alabama, where he stayed a few years, then going to the far west. Later he went to Mexico, then to Central and South America. When the Spanish-American war broke out in 1898, he was in Spain. A few years after the close of this war, Mr. Walters stopped writing, and nothing had been heard of him until a few days ago. His letter was brief, merely stating that he was in good health. Mr. A. M. Stack, on his first trip abroad, made enquiries for Mr. Walters, at the request of his father, but learned very little concerning his movements from the American consulates in the foreign countries. The father and the brothers of Mr. Walters had given him up for dead, but Mrs. Walters has persisted for years in the belief that her son was living. She is no doubt the happiest woman in the county since receiving news of her son.

VANCE ARANT, NATIVE THIS COUNTY, KILLED BY TRAIN

Seaboard Train Leaving Charlotte Yesterday Struck His Car on Rozzelle Ferry Road.

(From the Charlotte Observer.)

Struck by a Seaboard train, Vance Arant, manager of the Arant Belting company here, was instantly killed yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock at the crossing on the Rozzelle ferry road, near the Wizard automobile plant.

Mr. Arant, it was reported, was coming toward the city from Gastonia where he had been on business when the Ford roadster which he was driving was hit by Seaboard train No. 31, due to leave Charlotte at 3:36 o'clock in the afternoon for Rutherfordton. Just how the accident occurred could not be learned, but it is presumed that the tall brush on the right hand side of the road obstructed the view of Mr. Arant who drove the car directly in front of the approaching passenger train. Conductor Butler Carson and Engineer S. B. Winslow were in charge of the train and they found the man dead when the train was stopped. The body was taken to Mount Holly on the train which caused his death and was later transferred to a Charlotte-bound train that brought the body here, arriving about 6 o'clock.

Reports from Harry's undertaking establishment, where the body was taken, stated last night that the body was horribly mangled, with the skull crushed in and the legs and arms broken. Police officers, who viewed the body on arrival here, recognized the dead man as Vance Arant. The identity was not established until the body was brought here, as Mr. Arant was alone when struck, it was said.

Mr. Arant has lived in Charlotte for several years, serving as head of the Arant Belting company, with offices on East Trade street. He was 42 years of age and unmarried and is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Rause Arant of Union county. Three brothers and four sisters also survive. The brothers are J. L. Arant of Charlotte, T. R. Arant of Mint Hill, and J. B. Arant of Pageland, S. C. The sisters are Mrs. P. B. Mulligan of Charlotte, Mrs. Z. V. McNulty of Badin, Mrs. H. M. Parker of Union county, and Mrs. B. N. Hall of Camden, S. C.

Last night funeral arrangements were not completed, but it is thought the service will be held today.

ELECTRIC SHOCK CAUSES FALL, NECK IS BROKEN

C. W. Tiller, of Greenville, is Killed Accidentally While at Work.

Greenville, S. C., August 26.—A fall resulting from an electric shock caused the instant death of Claude W. Tiller, age thirty, electrician, of Poinsett mills early this morning. A coroners jury in the afternoon returned a verdict to the effect that the electrician came to his death by accident.

Mr. Tiller was engaged in drilling a hole near the ceiling in the spinning room with an electric breast drill while standing on a step ladder. In taking hold of a pipe with one hand and holding the drill with the other hand a current passed through his body. It was of such strength that he was unable to free his hold from the drill and pipe. He called for help and a co-worker in the plant ran to his assistance and succeeded in breaking the wire connection. When the current was broken and the electrician had been freed from his perilous position, he was unable to gain his equilibrium on the ladder, and he plunged head foremost to the floor, his neck being broken in the fall. Life was extinct when aid reached him.

Who serves his country well has no need of ancestors.—Voltaire.