

A blue mark here means that the subscriber to this copy of The News is behind on subscription. Please make a payment as soon as convenient.

The Mount Airy News

VOL. XXXIII

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1912.

NO. 21

MISS OLA WARD WINS THE GOLD!

Interest in the Contest Great--No Trouble for the Girls to Get New Subscribers--Citizens Readily Assist the Girls by Renewing and Paying Back Dues

The first count in the Mount Airy News Popular Ladies voting contest, occurred on last Monday evening. The gentlemen from Mt. Airy who acted as judges at this count were Mr. G. C. Welch, Mr. T. G. Fawcett and Mr. S. M. Hale. The judges worked very fast and made short work of the immense pile of the little pasteboards. The young ladies have certainly taken a great interest in the contest conducted by the News, and it goes without saying that the high standard set by this paper as well as its bright, clean sheet has given the people of Mt. Airy confidence in its ability to do only those things that any modern newspaper would undertake in its endeavors to not only further its own interests, but to improve the high standard of perfection, that every newspaper is striving to attain. Not only is the News trying to increase its already large circulation, but it is working this plan in co-operation with the merchants of Mt. Airy, who being wideawake to good things that mean good business, consented to the co-operation, and now that the contest is running along very smoothly, speaks a great deal of the merits of the contest. Now girls be sure to have your friends ask for the merchants coupons. This is one of the sure ways of obtaining a large vote standing. And before we go any further let us state that Miss Ola Ward won the \$10 in gold and probably Miss Ward is one of the happiest young ladies in Mount Airy this week, on account of her good luck and ability. Miss Mand Sparger ran a close second in the contest so far and was closely followed by Miss Mallie Thacker who was third. Miss Johnnie Mae Roberts, Miss Annie Miller and Miss Mary Johnson occupied fourth, fifth and sixth places, respectively and they all did splendid work. It is practically certain that all these ladies who do any work at all in the contest will be accommodated with prizes. It is not too late to start as many a girl has won the elegant Obermeyer & Sons piano by starting rather late in the contest that have been conducted over other parts of the country. Start today and try for one of the valuable merchants prizes or the beautiful upright piano, for these prizes are worthy of your best efforts.

The second count in the News Popular ladies voting contest will be held on Saturday Dec. 21st. On this date the contestant making the greatest gain in votes from the date of the first count to the date of the second count on Saturday Dec. 21st, will receive a prize of \$10 in gold as a gift from the editor, Mr. Johnson. Remember this prize will not be given to that contestant who has the greatest vote standing at the date of the second

count on Saturday, Dec. 21st, but only to that young lady contestant who succeeds in making the Greatest Gain in Votes from the last count to second count Dec. 21st. Now kindly read the following carefully, as the new bonus offers are worth your time and a little study. Memorize the following New Bonus Offers as this is the most rapid method of obtaining a good vote standing. Bring your subscriptions to the office of the Publisher in clubs of seven, and take advantage of these New Bonus Offers.

New Bonus Offers.

For every seven new subscriptions 10,000 extra votes, making a total of 14,200 votes.
For every seven renewal subscriptions, 8,000 extra votes, making a total of 11,500 votes.
For every seven back subscriptions, 6,000 extra votes making a total of 8,800 votes.
For every bunch of forty (40) merchants coupons, that are brought to the office of the Publisher and counted, an additional bonus of 500 votes will be allowed, making a total of 1,500 votes.

Now girls it is strictly up to you, as to whether you will own one of these valuable prizes or not. Decide right now, and start in today. Those who desire any further information in regard to the contest will kindly call in person at the office of the Publisher.

The following is the standing of the girls at first count, Monday, Nov. 25, 1912.

Miss Ola Ward	34,275
Miss Mand Sparger	30,350
Miss Mallie Thacker	13,875
Miss Johnnie Mae Roberts	12,200
Miss Annie Miller	7,775
Miss Mary Johnson	4,625
Miss Nannie Watson	1,425
Miss Gertrude Reese	800
Miss Nina York	475
Miss Nellie Haymore	400
Miss Katherine Willis	250
Miss Isabelle Saunders	50
Miss Annie Folger	50
Miss Lilla Hemmings	25
Miss Grace Humdley	25

Gets \$50,000 for Turkey Crop.

Tazewell, Va., Nov. 23rd.—Change of tariff is not worrying the farmers in this vicinity. This fall a larger amount than usual was realized from the sale of cattle. Immediately following this industry, turkey buyers appeared, and on Wednesday twenty-one car loads of fine turkeys were shipped to Northern markets, the market value of which is estimated to be about \$50,000. One turkey in the lot from Tazewell was said to weigh forty-five pounds.

Tonight, if you feel dull and stupid or bilious and constipated, take a dose of Chamberlain's Tablets, and you will feel all right tomorrow. Sold by All Dealers.

FIFTEEN YEARS FOR SIDNA ALLEN.

Carroll County Outlaw Found Guilty of Murder in Second Degree.

Wytheville, Va., Nov. 22.—At one o'clock, the jury in the Allen case gave a verdict against Sidna Allen of murder in the second degree, fixing his term at fifteen years in the penitentiary. The jury was in consultation, altogether, about six hours and a half.

Sidna Allen and his wife wept freely when the announcement was made by Foreman J. W. Neikirk. Mrs. Allen seemed to lose her self-control for the first time, and half an hour after the verdict had been given, was yet sobbing and wailing so that she could be heard throughout the room.

It is understood that the jurors at first stood six for acquittal, five for first degree and one for second degree. All gradually went to the view of the one man. The verdict was given by eleven men. This morning Juror Busie received news that his child was dying at his home and was released by consent of both sides, after a consultation of judge and lawyers, at which Sidna Allen himself was present. The State will begin preparations immediately for another trial of Sidna Allen. Probably he will be arraigned next for the murder of Sheriff Webb.

It will be remembered that Claude Allen on his first trial for the murder of Judge Massie was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to fifteen years by a Wythe county jury. On his second trial for killing Foster, a Washington county jury hung, eight for murder in the first and four for second degree. On his third trial, also by a Washington county jury, he was convicted of first degree murder.

This present trial is the first of the Allen cases so far as is known in which any jurors have favored acquittal. There is some doubt whether Wesley Edwards or Sidna Allen will be tried next, but the probability is that it will be Allen. It is a coincidence that this date, on which Sidna Allen is convicted, is the same that was fixed for the electrocution of his brother Floyd.

It is believed here that the execution of Claude Allen will be postponed until ultimate decision in the case of Sidna. The State has Sidna for fifteen years, but the feeling of the officials is that the ends of justice will not be served until the prosecution has been continued to the end and final verdict of juries are obtained.

Sidna Allen, who was found guilty of second degree murder at Wytheville yesterday and whose punishment was fixed at fifteen years in the State penitentiary was brought to Roanoke last night under a heavy guard of Baldwin detectives. Wesley Edwards, the other prisoner captured with Sidna Allen in Des Moines, Iowa, also was brought back to the jail in this city. The two prisoners will remain in Roanoke until Sidna again is put on trial, December 2.

Wytheville, Va., Nov. 21.—The case against Sidna Allen, for the murder of Judge Thornton L. Massie, at Hillsville, March 14, was given to the jury at 4:55 this evening, as soon as the court room could be partly cleared, after the conclusion of Mr. Wysor's closing speech for the prosecution.

At six o'clock the jury signaled its desire to come in and, amid breathless silence, went to its seats. In response to Judge Staples' calm and measured enquiries, "Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon a verdict?" the foreman stolidly replied, "No, sir, we have not." Then after a brief conference with the sheriff, the judge announced adjournment until 7:30. The jury went to the hotel and had supper, returned to the court room and went immediately to its own room where it was locked up.

Locked up for Night. At nine o'clock it asked through its foreman to be allowed

until tomorrow morning and was escorted to its rooms. It will report at 9 o'clock in the morning.

During the morning session and until Mr. Wysor began to speak, Sidna Allen and his wife and his elder daughter sat together with a space cleared behind them and the little daughter lying stretched across their laps most of the day fast asleep. Allen's general appearance was that of patient, careful attention. Once or twice during the morning he and Mrs. Allen yawned distinctly and part of the time both of them and a woman friend, who sat by them, were munching candy or chewing gum with apparent enjoyment. At one point in Mr. Buxton's speech where he said that if Sidna Allen had not been armed at the court house his body would be lying now beneath the turf on the slopes of the Blue Ridge, the defendant and his wife and the elder daughter all put handkerchiefs or hands to their eyes and seemed to be weeping.

Of course the worst and most trying time was the forty-five minutes after the jury went out. It was known by counsel, prisoner and everybody who understood conditions that the jury would require at least thirty minutes to go over the instructions of Judge Staples and that then the first ballot would be taken to decide whether the prisoner at the bar should be sent to the electric chair to be killed or given a further hope for continued life.

Indicted for Four Murders.

T. These cases are not like most criminal trials. It was kept in mind that the defendant was not to be released to go smiling and free among his friends and family on a verdict of acquittal or to be clear of the deadly fear of the State. It was a second degree murder. The best possible verdict for the defendant would be but temporary relief and one step gained. Each of the defendants in these cases is indicted for four murders, those of Judge Massie, Sheriff Webb, Mr. Foster and Juror Fowler. According to the recently rendered decision of the state court of appeals, sustaining Judge Staples, in the case of Claude Allen, a defendant convicted of second degree murder for the killing of one person may be tried for the killing of another person in the same affray. The precedent is an old one, going back to the time when a man in this State shot a woman with a child in her arms, wounding both, was acquitted of the wounding of the child and afterward indicted, convicted and punished for wounding the woman, although both the persons had been hit by the same shot.

Mrs. Allen was with her husband throughout the first hour, but gave evident indications of exhaustion in this critical trial. The Baldwin men, headed by W. G. Baldwin and Thomas Felts, themselves, clustered close behind the formidable prisoner. They were taking no chances. Jasper and Victor Allen were in and about the court and behaving themselves like any of the hundreds of peaceful citizens, but it was thought best to guard against any possible sudden outbreak of temper.

Sidna Allen spent the first minutes after the jury went out chatting with his wife, either on something pleasant not connected with the trial or reassuring her, for he smiled frequently and broadly. It was evident that she did not share his apparent good spirits. She did not answer with a smile to any of his smiles and her eyes seen through the spectacles she wears always, were restless. She could not take her attention from the door of the jury room, knocks on which, signaling a demand for the coming of the sheriff and admission to the court, might be like the falling of the clouds on her husband's coffin lid.

Dramatic Incidents.

Dramatic incidents of the day were the conclusion of Mr. Buxton's speech with a recitation from the book of common prayer of a petition used especially by the Episcopalians in the office of institutions of the ministers into parishes but frequently adapted

in the ordinary services: "Direct us, oh Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in Thee we may glorify Thy holy name," and by the recitation by Mr. Poage of the following verses to the memory of Sheriff Webb, of Carroll, taken from a popular magazine:

"Cruel were the odds against him, but the odds were naught to him.

For his bullet found Floyd Allen ere the sight of his eyes grew dim.

Then down with Massie and Foster, on the growing heap on the floor.

In his clutch the empty weapon that his hand should use no more.

He dreamed that he still protected the dead that round him lay.

Till the thirst for murder slackened and the mountain rode away.

Massie and Webb and Foster—long may their memory live.

Who had naught to give but their life blood and gave what they had to give.

They died for thy laws, Virginia—on thy historic breast.

No braver sons have fallen, no truer heroes rest.

Not in the roar of battle, when the blood runs strong and high,

In the stiller paths of duty, they laid them down to die.

And the nation that is waiting, with half averted ear,

For the low and distant murmur that the future has to hear,

Should make their names the slogan of the cause their vision saw—

The sanctity of human life and the majesty of law,

The slogan that shall echo till it drowns all other cry.

The cause our lives must cherish lest our great republic die."

Mr. J. C. Buxton, leading counsel for the defense, began with courteous expression of his thanks to Judge Staples, to the officials of the court, and his brethren of the bar on both sides of the case. After his disclaimer of purpose to reflect on the detectives and newspapers he paid a warm compliment to the character of the jury and spoke of the old association and comradeship of Virginians and North Carolinians. He quoted from the book of Leviticus as defining the duty of the jury, "In righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor." He asserted that it is not fair to try Sidna Allen by the threats proved against his brother Floyd. There was no evidence that Sidna knew of any of these expressions or had any sympathy with them. He explained that the wife and children of Sidna Allen had not been brought into court for any scenic effect but that it was necessary for the children to be with their mother; that the family was so hard pressed that no arrangements could be made and that the mother naturally insisted on being with her husband in this time of his supreme trial.

At this reference both Sidna Allen and his wife, the second time in the day, seemed to be weeping violently.

Mr. Buxton alluded severely to Mr. Campbell's comparison of Sidna Allen's affection for his children to the love of a tiger for his whelps and walked over and dramatically put his hand on the head of Allen's beautiful younger children and quoted the words of the Savior, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." He demanded that the State be held to its own proposition and that if the jury could not find beyond a reasonable doubt that this defendant was guilty of murder in the first degree by engaging in a conspiracy to murder by aiding and abetting in murder or by killing Judge Massie with his own hand, he be acquitted and sent home to his family.

Fired in Defense of Rights.

The evidence showed, Mr. Buxton insisted, that the only shots fired by Sidna Allen were in defense of his own rights, which, under the instructions of the court, the jury must find he had the right to fire. The assumption that the Allens were

engaged in conspiracy to destroy the court was the assumption that all of them were fools. They were intelligent men and knew perfectly well the terrible consequences to themselves of such an act.

Here Mr. Buxton turned aside a little from the main course of his argument to pay a high tribute to Judge Bolen, of Hillsville. Mr. Buxton is a tremendous man, 6 feet 3 or 4 inches high, weighing probably 260 pounds, with convincing and persuasive dark eyes, black, overshadowing eyebrows, gray mustache and iron gray hair on a leonine head, and he has a vast and powerful voice and a great sweep of gesture. As he got on in his speech he seemed to pervade the entire room and held the breathless attention of an audience which filled every seat and packed every aisle and inch of standing room back to the furthest wall. He said this whole affair was just a court house fight. That was all there was to it. The officers would not have been shooting at Floyd Allen before he got his pistol and while others were shooting at them unless they were bent on destroying him. He was the man they were after. The officers of the court who were killed died from the wild shooting of their own friends.

Here a general laugh was caused when Mr. Buxton thrust his hand into his trousers pocket and drew out a little silver implement which he aimed as illustrating the way in which the automatic pistols were used by those unaccustomed to them. It was seen that what the judge had was a patent corkscrew. The women in the audience held their sides and appeared to be nearly smothered with their laughter. The guffaws in some places and titters in others increased when somebody suggested that Mr. Buxton came from a prohibition State, and that a good deal of rapping by the sheriff and a stern warning from Judge Staples as soon as he could suppress his own grin to secure a return of gravity. Mr. Buxton joined good naturedly in the laughter at his own expense.

He said the State had made much of Sidna Allen ordering one thousand cartridges for side in his store but had tried to ignore the purchase of God, months before the tragedy, of 150 cartridges for his own personal use. The State's position, he said, was a desperate attempt to force a compromise and prevent an acquittal. It really had no hope of anything more serious than a verdict of murder in the second degree. It had failed to prove conspiracy; it had failed to prove that Sidna Allen was aiding or abetting in murder; it had contradicted its own witnesses in an attempt to prove that he had killed Judge Massie with his own hand. The man was entitled to his acquittal but in any case the worst that possibly could be found against him was a verdict of involuntary manslaughter. Then Mr. Buxton brought his speech to an intense climax by repeating the prayer from the book of common prayer and it was a curious thing to see that the Episcopalians scattered through the audience bowed their heads as they heard the familiar words just as if they were in church.

Mr. Wysor's Closing Speech.

Mr. J. C. Wysor, leading counsel for the commonwealth, closed in a speech of two hours. In his opening remarks he said this crime at Hillsville has shocked the civilized world and that all good and wise men and women wanted it punished. He thought while Mr. Buxton was withdrawing statements he might have withdrawn also his charge that God shot at Sidna Allen and killed the Ayers girl, inasmuch as both had been disproved absolutely. He alluded to the presence of Mrs. Allen and the children in court and said they had been brought there for a purpose, to get the sympathy of the jury and practice on their feelings. Really it was the prisoner putting up the white flag and begging for mercy, not because of his own innocence and the strength of his defense, but trying to hide himself behind his wife and children and take refuge in their innocence. But nearly every crim-

Continued to Page 5.

Nominating Blank

Popular Vote Contest

.....1912

I hereby nominate or suggest the name of

Address.....

As a lady worthy to become a candidate in your Popular Voting Contest, I present this name with the distinct understanding and agreement that the editor shall not divulge my name. This does not obligate me in any way whatever.

Signed.....

Address.....