

# The Mount Airy News.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

## COMMITTS SUICIDE IN HIS CELL

### Iredell County Man Held For Murder Hanged Himself In Jail At Statesville

Statesville, Jan. 21.—Will Poston, of Macon, Ga., who would have faced trial in Iredell Superior court next week, charged with the murder of Otto Morrow last fall, committed suicide last night in the county jail by hanging himself to one of the cell doors.

Poston seemed to be in good spirits yesterday and no intimation was given that he intended to take his own life. Just what time last night or this morning the deed was committed cannot be determined, as nothing was known until about 8 o'clock this morning when the jail attendants went to Poston's cell to give him his breakfast. A gruesome sight met their gaze. Poston was lying on the floor, face downward, cold in death. His face was black and a leather strap was drawn tightly around his neck. Just over the cell door was suspended a leather strap, reinforced by a cord of cloth or rags. The evidence would indicate that the deceased rigged up the hanging equipment from his leather belt and suspenders, fixed the noose and climbed up to the bath tub just inside the cell door in order to fit it around his neck. When he stepped off the bath tub, the poorly provided hangman's rope broke, and he fell to the floor on his face and died from strangulation.

A number of people were admitted into the jail and viewed the remains as they were first seen this morning, and it was decided that no coroner's inquest was needed as it was a clear case of suicide.

Some time during the night Poston made careful preparation for the deed. His suit case was neatly packed and there was another bundle containing his personal effects tied up carefully. A small testament was found lying near his bed and another was found in his suit case. Officers made search for any note or message written by deceased, explaining why the act was accomplished, but none was found. His bed showed that he used it during the night. His remains will be buried at Triplett church near his home. Poston was 51 years of age and survived by his wife and four children. He was a well-to-do lumber dealer, merchant and farmer and up to the time he killed his neighbor last fall was a respected citizen. Since the tragedy the widow of Morrow brought suit against Poston for killing her husband, in the sum of \$10,000, and for the injury done to their son, suit was entered for \$1,000.

The crime for which W. L. Poston was to be tried next week was the killing without provocation of his neighbor, Morrow, at Macon near Mooresville, last October. Mr. Morrow and his son were passing the Poston home and Poston shot and mortally wounded Mr. Morrow and seriously wounded Mr. Morrow's little boy.

Attorneys for deceased state that Poston was mentally unbalanced at the time he committed the homicide and if he had lived to stand trial a plea of insanity would have been entered. For some time Poston's health had been on the decline.

## ASHEVILLE MAN HELD UNDER "DRY" LAW

Asheville, Jan. 21.—Otis Styles enjoys the distinction of being the first man in the Asheville district to be arrested by federal officers for violation of the new national prohibition act, which went into effect on midnight of January 16, Styles being arrested last night by C. H. Smith, federal agent, and C. J. Ingle, captain of detectives of the city force.

He is charged with bringing to Asheville seven gallons of whisky in violation of the law and his big Oakland touring car was also seized by the officers, who found some of the whisky, which Styles is charged with bringing here last Saturday.

Styles made a bond of \$500 for his appearance before Commissioner Vonne L. Godger, for a preliminary, although he would not at this time make bond for the possession of the car.

## Two Lone Voters Carry A \$300,000 Bond Election

Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 22.—Two lone voters in the Shaker Heights village school district passed a \$300,000 bond issue for building new schools at a special election Monday, the county board of elections announced today, after completion of the ballots.

No other voter showed the deep snow.

## Hiram Johnson To Try For State Vote

Raleigh, Jan. 19.—That Senator Hiram Johnson will seek supremacy in North Carolina in the presidential primary is indicated by a telegram received from him by the secretary of state.

It has been announced that the North Carolina Republican delegation would support Judge Jeter C. Pritchard on the first ballot in the national convention but, under the North Carolina law, there is this binding provision:

"And all delegates at large from the state of North Carolina to the national convention of such political party and the delegates from each congressional district shall be bound by the majority of votes which may be cast for any such persons for the respective nominations, and in the event there shall be no majority vote, the plurality vote shall govern in each of the congressional districts; provided, that the state board of elections shall make such other and necessary rules and regulations for carrying out the provision of this act, such rules and regulations not to be in conflict with the letter and spirit of this act."

Consequently, the delegates to the Republican convention will be bound, this bringing about another question, whether Judge Pritchard can be prevailed upon by his supporters in North Carolina to enter the primary; and still another question, if Hiram Johnson runs, will he run as an orthodox Republican or as a dissenter?

Senator Johnson's telegram to the secretary of state to-day reads as follows:

"Please wire night letter, collect, what is the final date for candidates to qualify in presidential primary election in your state. Please outline in same wire what requirements, such as filing petition, etc., must be fulfilled by candidates, in order to get place on presidential ballot."

## Holland's Refusal Doesn't End Matter

London, Jan. 24.—In diplomatic quarters the belief was expressed this morning that the Dutch reply refusing to surrender the former German emperor does not close the incident. It is held that the allies have so strongly committed themselves in the peace treaty on this matter that they cannot withdraw without further conversations with Holland.

In the opinion of close observers Great Britain in particular took such an emphatic stand at the peace conference that Downing street will have to make some further move. At the same time public opinion in England regarding the trial of the former war lord has changed considerably since the conference. At that time the country appeared very keen for bringing the ex-kaiser to justice. In recent days, however, the feeling seems to have become more or less apathetic.

## Masonic Grand Lodge Assembles In Raleigh

Raleigh, Jan. 20.—The grand lodge of North Carolina Masons assembled in Raleigh tonight for the 133rd annual communication, took immediate action on a suggestion in Grand Master Henry A. Grady's report, and appointed a committee to investigate the feasibility of a Masonic mountain retreat and summer resort in western North Carolina.

Six hundred or more Masons from all parts of the state are in attendance upon the session of the grand lodge. The first night's sessions were largely given over to the reading of reports of the officers.

A net gain of 1,758 members for the state during the last eight months was reported by the grand secretary while the grand treasurer reported a total receipt of \$50,886, a gain of approximately \$15,000 over the receipts for last year.

## Clothier Is Charged With Profiteering

Chattanooga, Jan. 23.—Charged with making a profit of \$29.50 on an overcoat costing him \$18.50, Otis Clark, proprietor of the Home Credit company here, was bound over to the federal grand jury by United States Commissioner Sam J. McAllister, after the defendant had attempted to justify the sale on the grounds that it was necessary for the concern to make up for bad debts in this way.

This is the first case to be heard as the result of activities of the local fair price committee, but charges are pending against two other persons for alleged profiteering.

## LEGALLY HAD WHISKY AND LEGALLY LOST IT

Declared Not Guilty In State Court And Given His Drink, Asheville Man Held By Federal Law

Asheville, Jan. 23.—Ben Morris played the game of "off again, on again," with the last time perhaps the most serious of all, today when he was taken by Federal Agent C. H. Smith, on charges of violating the national prohibition act, just after he had been found not guilty by a Superior court grand jury and his liquor had been returned to him at the police station. He was taken before United States Commissioner Vonne L. Godger and gave a \$200 bond for his appearance for a preliminary hearing.

Morris was arrested last fall at a local club, when he entered there with a suitcase filled with whisky. The case was tried in police court, and appealed to Superior court. The police held the liquor pending a final decision of the case in the state. When the case was called before Judge J. L. Webb in Superior court, it was held that Morris, under the old law, had the liquor for his private use and he was found not guilty. Desiring to secure the whisky again, he asked the court for an order to the police to release.

This was given and to make it doubly safe Morris appealed to Judge R. M. Well of police court to also give him an order. Armed with these orders he approached the police desk sergeant and demanded his liquor. It was given to him upon proper receipt, and picking up the suitcase, he started to walk out of the station. He had taken only a few steps however, until Federal Agent Smith appeared and arrested him.

## A Reasonable Profit On Sugar Is Allowed

Washington, Jan. 23.—Senator Simmons' office today made public a copy of a letter from the United States sugar equalization board, written to a correspondent desiring to know the "legal price" of sugar. With the sugar price situation acute in North Carolina the letter is of general interest and reads:

"Please note that there is no legal price now, as the sugar market has gone back to the normal basis of supply and demand and prices are regulated by such.

"The law, however, provides that the buyer of sugar, when re-selling to the jobber or the consumer, must confine himself to a fair and reasonable profit over his purchase price. The price of refined sugar at seaboard refining points ranges today from 15 to 16 1/2 cents per pound. To this is added freight to destination and the fair and reasonable profit provided for in the food control act.

"If you feel that you are being charged an inordinate price for sugar you have a perfect right to turn the matter over to your United States attorney, who will see that the public is not mulct by being charged a price that is unreasonable or unjust."

## NEWSPAPER AT SHELBY IN HANDS OF RECEIVER

The Shelby News, a weekly newspaper, this week asked for a temporary receivership through Judge Allen, who is presiding over a term of court at Lincolnton. The receivership being granted, Horace W. Thompson, one of the stockholders, was appointed temporary receiver. A hearing will be granted January 26, at which time it will be decided whether to continue publication. No pressing obligations are to be met, it is stated, but J. F. Babington, who has been editor since the death of W. H. Miller, has been unable to secure mechanical help and the step was taken to clear up business entanglements. Publication has been suspended until the receiver determines the disposition of the plant.

## Bond Thomas Is Dead Of Sleeping Sickness

Plainfield, N. J., Jan. 25.—Bond Thomas, brother-in-law of Dr. Simon Flexner, head of the Rockefeller institute, who had been suffering for three weeks from what physicians believed to be sleeping sickness, died at his home here today. His brother, Prof. Henry H. Thomas, of Johns Hopkins university, said that Mr. Thomas' death was directly due to pneumonia which developed on Saturday.

Dr. Flexner and Professor Thomas have been attending Mr. Thomas during his illness.

## Wilmington Aviator Fighting For Poland

Paris, Jan. 21.—Capt. Harmon G. Rorison, of Wilmington, N. C., an officer in the reserve corps of the American aviation service, has arrived in Warsaw and joined the Kosciuszko squadron in fighting against the bolsheviks, according to advices from the Polish capital. To enlist with the other Americans making up the squadron, Captain Rorison traveled 6,000 miles and accepted a rank of lieutenant.

When the American flier left his home in the United States, he did not know where the other Yankee aviators were located and had but little idea of how to reach them. He simply knew they were engaged on the bolshevik front. When he landed in Poland he was sent to Lemberg, where he reported to Maj. P. Cedric Fauntleroy, leader of the Kosciuszko squadron, who was able to find a place for him, the death of Lieut. Edmund P. Graves on December 2 having left a vacancy. Americans who are members of the squadron are receiving pay that is less than that paid an office boy in the United States. Their monthly wages amount to about \$5 and on this pittance they are undergoing the hardships of a Russian winter. According to Major Fauntleroy, however, no complaints are received from the men, one of whom said recently: "We came to Poland as soldiers of fortune."

## A High Point Hero Has New Nose And Jaw

High Point, Jan. 19.—His face terribly disfigured, nose blown away, jaw-bone and teeth destroyed when a shell exploded near him during the last German drive in France. Private John Hiatt, of Lexington, who was with the 30th division, to-day wears a face "just as good as the one he had before the war."

Mr. and Mrs. Hiatt have been visiting in High Point before Mr. Hiatt returns to the Walter Reed hospital, in Washington, to undergo further treatment.

The restoration of the man's jaw-bone, teeth and face is considered one of the surgical marvels of the war. Bits of skin and gristle from his body were used in building up a new nose, while a silver plate was made into a jaw bone, with a hinge, which enables him to chew his food with the same ease as he did before the shell exploded.

## More Tractors for North Carolina

West Raleigh, Jan. 23.—There are 2,400 tractors in North Carolina, according to estimates made by the Agricultural Engineering Department of the North Carolina State College. The figures were secured from eight or ten of the leading companies.

The rate of increase of power farming in the State is shown by the fact that previous to 1919 there was a total less than 1,000 of tractors. During the year just closed 1,600 machines were sold.

Manufacturers estimate sales of approximately 3,500 tractors in 1920.

The most common size of tractors in use are those ranging from 15 to 25 horsepower at the belt. The size, however, depends upon the use to which the machine is to be put. There is very little call for a machine of less than 16 horsepower, and the largest sizes sold in any quantity are 27 to 30 horsepower.

## INCOME TAX DODGERS PAY OVER \$1,600,000

Boston Wool Dealers Also In Prison, But Will Make Application For A Parole

Boston, Jan. 22.—William A. English and John O'Brien, who as members of the wool firm of English and O'Brien, of this city, were sentenced last July to 18 months imprisonment in connection with the payment of income taxes, have paid the government \$1,600,000 in settlement. It was announced tonight by United States District Attorney Boynton.

Mr. Boynton added that a civil suit which was brought against the two men for \$3,000,000 in connection with their delinquency soon after they were sent to prison, was to be withdrawn. Both have made application for parole to which they will be eligible in another week, when they will have served one third of their sentences.

FARMS FOR SALE.—A well improved farm well located on a national improved road. Write for full particulars and description with price and terms, to W. A. Randsburg, Owner, Forestburg, Va. 2-12-p

## ALEXANDER CHATHAM DIES AT ELKIN HOME

He Was 86 Years and Established the Chatham Manufacturing Company

Elkin, Jan. 21.—The long and honorable life of one of Elkin's best known and most highly esteemed citizens, Alexander Chatham, Sr., came to an end today. Mr. Chatham was 86 years of age on the day before his death and had been in failing health for several months. He was twice married, his first wife being Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gwyn. The children of this marriage are H. G. Chatham of Winston-Salem; R. M. Chatham, of Elkin, and Paul Chatham, of Charlotte. Mr. Chatham's second wife was Miss Alice Hickerson, and the surviving children of this union are, Alexander Chatham, Jr., R. H. Chatham, of Elkin, and T. D. Chatham, of New York, Mrs. M. E. Mottisinger, of Winston-Salem.

Mr. Chatham had a long and successful business career as a merchant, manufacturer, farmer and banker. He and T. L. Gwyn established the business now known as the Chatham Manufacturing company, being pioneers in that line of manufacturing in this section of North Carolina. For a number of years Mr. Chatham had been president of the Elkin National bank and much of the success of this institution is due to his executive ability and wise counsel.

From his early youth, Mr. Chatham had been a member of the Methodist church. For years he was superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school at Elkin and a member of the Board of Stewards, and an active factor in the church of his choice.

The people of Elkin and the surrounding country mourn the loss of one of the best citizens whose life was an open book read of all men.

The funeral services will be conducted on Thursday by Rev. G. C. Brinkman, pastor of the Methodist church.

## Pilot Mountain Farm Auctioned At \$14,500

Pilot Mountain, Jan. 23.—P. W. Lawrence just east of town, sold his farm to the highest bidder Saturday. The land was cut into sections and sold to several different parties. The farm contained about 172 acres, and brought from \$89 to \$100 an acre, the entire amount being about \$14,500.

Mr. Lawrence has purchased a fine farm near High Point and will move his family there in the near future. The many friends of Mr. Lawrence and family will regret to lose them. The place recently sold is one of the old land marks of the community.

## Several Go To Road For Tobacco Thefts

Reidsville, Jan. 23.—Superior court at Wentworth has been in session this week and Judge B. F. Long has seen to it that much business has been transacted. The Cardwells, of Madison, charged with purloining leaf tobacco and disposing of it on the Reidsville and Madison markets, were given road sentences.

The old man, who was sentenced for three years for receiving stolen goods, appealed. The others plead guilty to the charge. "Slim" Cardwell was sentenced for three and a half years, while the others will serve three years.

## To Prevent Influenza

Owing to the fact that influenza is again abroad in our land, and while it has not yet gotten a hold in our town it is in neighboring towns and may strike us at any time, therefore the school authorities have secured the services of Dr. Moir Martin to lecture to the children about their health and how to take precautions to avoid this disease.

The Doctor spoke at the high school Tuesday morning and took each school in turn, he gave the children ten regulations as precautionary measures. These regulations will be kept before the children and they will be required to write and memorize them as well as put them in practice. It is the earnest purpose of the school authorities to do all that can be done to look after the health and physical well being of the pupils so that they may keep strong and well and able to do their best in their studies.

This effort of the authorities to prevent a recurrence of an epidemic of influenza in our town, is highly commendable and should have the unqualified support of all patrons of the school, and indeed of the entire community.

## No Sympathy Felt In Holland For Wilhelm

The Hague, Jan. 24.—The Dutch government and the former German emperor have settled down to await the allies' next move. Only one Dutch newspaper, the Amsterdam Telegraph, went beyond approval of the government's action and, while heartily approving the stand on national honor, said:

"Sentiment for the former Kaiser here is below zero, and we believe that an extremely small number of Dutchmen would have been hurt if he had been called to account some way or other for the terrible responsibility which rests upon him. The Dutch people do not feel like standing as a bulwark about the former Kaiser, and the best part of our government's note is its total absence of sympathy for the accused."

The Brussels newspaper, Le Nation Belge, has commented bitterly on the refusal, saying in effect that Holland thereby proves herself as always, a friend of the German junkers and an enemy of the entente.

Holland meanwhile is going forward with her plans to join the league of nations. The press indicates not much opposition is expected and that parliament probably will vote Holland's participation with little dissension.

## Statesville to Have No Hogs In the City

Statesville, Jan. 22.—The board of aldermen of Statesville have ruled the hog out. At a recent meeting it was decided that on and after February 15, 1920, no hogs will be allowed kept within the corporate limits of the city. During the war and since there has been some degree of flexibility in regard to the enforcement of the old ordinance and in certain sections the people were permitted to produce their own pork at home. But the latest ruling sweeps the deck clean and those who want to keep hogs after the 15th of next month will have to go outside the city limits to enjoy that privilege.

## Army Of Witnesses To Attend Senator's Trial

Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 25.—Venimen, defendants, witnesses and a small legal army began arriving here today for the trial which opens in federal court Tuesday of United States Senator Truman H. Newberry and 130 others charged with corruption conspiracy and fraud in the 1918 senatorial election.

Nearly 700 witnesses, it has been estimated, will be called by both sides and the trial is expected to extend into March. In an effort to speed up the proceedings two venires consisting of 350 names were drawn and a questionnaire circulated by the court served to eliminate all but 135, who were ordered to report tomorrow.

## CONVALESCENTS BUILD UP ON PEPTO-MANGAN

Increases the Supply of Rich Red Blood-Restores Strength and Vigor

Physicians Recommend It

Sold in Liquid and Tablet Form—The Name "Gude's" the Guide to Genuine Pepto-Mangan

A serious illness such as Influenza or other infectious diseases always leaves the body with low vitality, lack of strength, and impoverished blood. Gude's Pepto-Mangan aids convalescents to a quick recovery, for it creates a generous supply of rich, red blood and restores the body to its normal, healthy condition.

That's why physicians recommend Pepto-Mangan, for they know that it imparts to the blood the material so sorely needed by weak, run-down systems.

Pale, sallow, thin, easily-exhausted men and women find that Pepto-Mangan builds them up wonderfully. A new supply of rich, red blood is created, which in turn imparts the glow of health to the cheeks, increased the appetite, the eyes sparkle, the entire system takes a new lease on life.

Pepto-Mangan is obtainable in liquid or tablet form; whichever proves most convenient. Both forms possess identical medicinal qualities. There is but one genuine Pepto-Mangan and that is "Gude's." Ask your druggist for "Gude's" and look for the name "Gude's" on the package. If it is not there, it is not Pepto-Mangan.