

# The Mount Airy News.

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## HUMAN SPIDER MEETS HIS DEATH

### Falls 10 Stories to Street in New York City.

New York, March 5.—With a Broadway crowd standing agape and movie machines clicking out their yards of celluloid ribbon, Harry F. Young, self-styled "spider," plunged 10 stories to his death today while attempting to scale the side of the Hotel Martinique.

Women fainted and disorder ensued. Police reserves had to be called before the body could be removed and traffic restarted.

Among those who crowded Greeley square watching the performer at his stunt was his wife with whom he had just lunched. She swooned. Revived in a drug store nearby, she was removed to a hospital.

The square was packed when Young appeared. Clinging to points of vantage on the 33rd street elevated were dozens of cameramen. Windows of every skyscraper in the vicinity were filled with men and women laughing and talking excitedly as Young began his climb. The police estimated the crowd at 20,000.

Young wore a white shirt, duck trousers, and white shoes, which served to outline his figure against the drab wall. On his back hung a sign reading "safety last"—for Young was an incorporator of the "Safety Last society," formed last week by human flies, parachute jumpers and folk of adventurous liking whose occupation caused them to be listed by insurance companies as "bad risks."

"The spider" began his ascent at the north end of the hotel. He climbed up a surface that seemed from the street absolutely sheer, but here and there had small indentations on which the performer was able to cling with finger or toe. The fourth floor was gained without incident. At that point Young climbed over a balcony and walked over to the center of the building as if to afford the crowd a better view. Young apparently felt he was to meet death, for people in windows past which he climbed said later that they heard him muttering to himself: "I can't make it, I can't make it."

But he kept on. When he reached the 10th floor his foot slipped. Down he plunged. From the crowd rose a groan that grew like the moaning of the wind.

Falling close to the wall, he crashed onto the balcony. His body was deflected out into the street.

Young, who was 25 years old and lived in this city, had engaged in stunts for several years. His card proclaimed him "America's unique and original steeplejack" and announced that work was guaranteed "on flagstaffs, church steeples, water tanks and impossible places to reach." He had performed many times for the Red Cross and many times had scaled Broadway buildings. He leaves a widow and a young son.

The sign which Young bore on his back at first was taken to indicate that his climb was intended to advertise the "Safty Last society."

In his pocket however was found a contract with a motion picture concern and from another source it was reported that a new picture soon to be put on the screen would feature a human fly stunt.

The fact that a large battery of movie cameras recorded the beginning and the end of Young's tragic adventure raised a question as to the probable course of some producers who might desire to release news films. At the office of the Motion Picture Producers' and Distributors' of America, it was stated that office could not attempt to censor the action of any theater managers, nor could there be any prohibition from showing the details of the affair. It was said that strong reliance was placed on the good taste of producers and managers, precluding and possibility of scenes of a morbid nature being shown anywhere.

## The Pneumonia Month

March is a typical pneumonia month and usually gives a high rate of mortality for the disease. After a long and hard winter, the system loses much of its resistance and people grow careless. When every cold, no matter how slight, is given prompt and intelligent attention, there is much less danger of pneumonia. It should be borne in mind that pneumonia is a germ disease and breeds in the throat. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is an expectorant and cleanses the germ laden mucus and not only cures a cold but prevents it resulting in pneumonia. It is pleasant to take. Children take it willingly.

## 17 WAITING FOR ELECTRIC CHAIR.

### Largest Number Ever Now Under Death Sentence.

Raleigh, Feb. 28.—Seventeen men, all in a row of "death cells," tomorrow will watch Bob Williams, negro, the 18th member of their group, walk down a long, narrow runway into the small chamber of the electric chair at the state prison. Not many minutes later, through steelbarred windows, they will see an undertaker's hearse drive away with the negro's body.

Usually, laughter and talk are resounding along death row. But tonight, in striking contrast, silence reigns. The thought of witnessing part of the same scene which may mark the end of their lives has crowded out the jovial spirit of the condemned—an attitude on the part of the men sentenced to die that has surprised almost every visitor to the prison.

One would expect quietude and an atmosphere of despair all the time in this colony of men. Prison officials, however, state that there appears to be a concerted effort on the part of each man to cheer the others and to hold out hope that perhaps something will happen to prevent the last walk to the electric chair. Each of the prisoners has acquired a smattering knowledge of law as a result of court trials. A large part of the time is consumed in arguing their cases, telling jokes and laughing.

Williams, after having been in the hands of the law on other occasions, was convicted of the murder of special Officer Bradley Cribb, at Fair Bluff when placed on trial at Whiteville. The slaying occurred Thursday night, January 25. After the negro's capture, the grand jury returned a true bill at 11:30 o'clock January 29. Williams went on trial at 2:30 o'clock the afternoon of the same day. He pleaded "not guilty." A verdict of guilty had been returned, sentence of death passed and Williams placed on train en route to Raleigh before 10 o'clock that night.

Wilmington's light infantry, of the North Carolina national guard, stood with fixed bayonets at strategic positions about the Columbus county courthouse while the trial was being held. Three guardsmen, with gleaming bayonets, surrounded the negro in the courtroom. A detachment guarded him part of the way to Raleigh. Troops were ordered out by the governor to prevent mob violence just after he was captured.

The following is the list of the condemned men, the crime for which each was sentenced, the status of each case, and date of execution where they have been fixed:

Bob Benson, negro, Fredell county, convicted of murder; first sentenced to be electrocuted on January 27, 1922; appealed and lost; date to be fixed by governor.

Graham White, negro, Mecklenburg county, murder; first sentenced to be electrocuted on March 15, 1921; appealed and lost; date to be fixed by governor.

C. P. Montgomery, white, Newhanover county, attack on woman; first sentenced to be electrocuted on February 28, 1922; appealed and lost; date to be fixed by governor.

Joe Dixon, negro, Craven, first degree burglary; first sentenced to be electrocuted on June 3, 1922; appealed and lost; has been granted three repites by governor and date of electrocution now set for April 16, 1923.

Ed Dill, negro, Beaufort county; attack on woman; first sentenced to be electrocuted on July 14, 1922; appealed and lost; date to be fixed.

George Williams, Fred Dove, Frank Dove, and Willie Hardison, all negro, convicted of a murder in Onslow county; date of electrocution first fixed for December 28, 1922; Williams, Fred Dove and Frank Dove have appealed and case is pending; Hardison has confessed to the crime, according to officials, and has exonerated the other negroes, his date for electrocution has been set for April 28, 1923. The negroes are alleged to have killed a rural mail carrier in Onslow county.

W. W. Campbell, white, Buncombe, murder; date for electrocution first set for October 11, 1922; appeal and case is still pending.

Eugene Gupton and Sidney Gupton, whites, Edgecombe, murder; date for electrocution first fixed for December 22, 1922; appealed and case is still pending.

James Williams, negro, Newhanover, attack on woman; date of electrocution first fixed for December 15, 1922; appealed and case is still pending.

Jim Miller, negro, Lenoir; murder;

date for electrocution set for March 3, 1923; appealed and case is pending.

Bob Williams, negro, Columbus, murder; date for electrocution set for March 1, 1923; no appeal.

D. M. Nobles, white, Columbus, murder; date for electrocution fixed for March 23, 1923; no appeal.

Wiley Perry, negro, Granville murder; date for electrocution set for March 9, 1923.

Jerry Dalton, white, Macon, murder; date for electrocution first set for October 10, 1910; granted new trial, again convicted, escaped from prison at Asheville; captured in California and returned to state prison; appealed but supreme court dismissed case; date for electrocution has not been fixed.

This is the largest number of prisoners under sentence of death ever held in the state prison at one time according to officials.

## ALARMED OVER GASOLINE SITUATION

### Some Are Predicting \$1.00 Gallon Price

Washington, March 5.—"A dollar a gallon for gasoline" is the prospect held up for the consumer in the report of the Lo Follette oil investigating committee to the senate, unless means are taken to break what the report declares to be a complete domination and control of the oil industry by the Standard companies. If a few great oil companies are permitted to "manipulate prices" during the next few years as they have been doing since 1920, the report presented yesterday said, the people of the country must be prepared "before long" to pay "at least" that price.

The result of a three months' inquiry into conditions in the industry, the report declared the Standard companies, in violation of the 1911 dissolution decree of the supreme court, exercise alleged control in such manner as to fix "the price which the producer of crude oil receives at the well, the price which the refiner receives for his gasoline and kerosene as well as the retail price to the consumer."

Asserting that the "more subtle" methods of such control placed the industry and the public even "more completely at the mercy of the Standard oil interests" than before the supreme court decree dissolving the Standard Oil company of New Jersey and its subsidiaries, the report declared that with "slight exceptions" there was still a total avoidance of competition among the Standard companies. Not only is there still a division of marketing territory among them over the entire country, the report said, but "two of the leading Standard companies—New Jersey and New York—divide the world between themselves in marketing operations."

Other methods of control set forth in the report are ownership by the Standard companies of the principal pipe lines, interlocking stock ownership, fixing of prices in the producing fields, and ownership of basic patents for the cracking process of gasoline production.

Among eight measures recommended by the committee to curb the evils found are establishment of a uniform accounting system for oil companies, to show costs and profits; compulsory monthly reporting to a government agency to show particularly the quantities of crude oil and its products in storage and transportation; divorcement of the membership of pipe lines from companies transporting the oil; and prohibition or regulation of the exportation of petroleum. Investigation looking to contempt proceedings before the supreme court in all cases of "implied" or expressed agreement to fix prices arbitrary or restrain trade also was recommended, as the institution of grand jury proceedings wherever price manipulation is attempted.

## Jumps From Washington Monument

Washington, March 9.—A leap from a small window near the top of the Washington monument 504 feet from the ground, brought instant death today to A. Birney Seip, grandson of the late General William Birney, who served with distinction during the civil war as a brigadier general in the Union army. Seip has been suffering from a nervous disease for several years, relatives said, and had left home unknown to his mother. He had suffered a breakdown several years ago while attending Cornell university, and had just come home from a Philadelphia sanitarium. Monument attendants expressed the belief Seip could not have fallen from the window, which is only about 18 inches high and three feet wide.

## PASSED OR KILLED LEGISLATIVE BILLS

### Things of Larger Movement That Were Done or Left Done by Body

Session convened . . . . . January 3rd  
Session adjourned . . . . . March 6th  
Bills introduced . . . . . 1,896  
Bills ratified . . . . . 1,195  
Bills killed . . . . . 701

### Major Bills Passed

Highway Bond Issue, providing an additional fund of \$15,000,000 for the continuance of the present road building program, and the levy of an additional 2-cent gasoline tax.

Permanent Improvement bond issue for State institutions and the completion of work now under way, totaling \$10,667,500.

Appropriations bill carrying a total of \$15,000,000 for the maintenance of State institutions and departments for the biennial period.

The Revenue Act, re-enacting the 1921 schedule of license and privilege taxes, and the 1921 schedule of taxes on incomes and inheritances, and also exempting stocks in foreign corporations held by citizens of this State from ad valorem taxation.

The Machinery Act, providing for the valuation of all property under the direction of the county commissioners and strengthening the power of the State Revenue Commission to maintain a uniformity of values between the counties.

The Machinery Act, providing for the repeal of the mandamus to compel the levy of taxes, and requiring the county boards of education to sit jointly with the county commissioners in preparing the county school budget. Power of the board to contract debt is limited to the amount of the budget.

Mothers' Aid bill appropriating \$50,000 a year to be matched by the counties for aid to worthy mothers deprived of the support of their husbands.

Permitting two or more adjoining counties to build county homes together.

Providing for State-wide eradication of ticks by the counties with State and Federal aid.

The Grist bill submitting to popular vote the question of issuing \$250,000 in bonds for loans on homes to veterans of the World War.

The Turlington codification of the State liquor laws to establish conformity of State laws to the Volstead act.

The Moore-Warren Solicitors' salary bill, placing the solicitors on a salary of \$4,500 annually with an expense account not to exceed \$750.

The "Lost Provinces" railroad bill, pledging the credit of the state not to exceed \$10,000,000 for building a railroad across the Blue Ridge mountains into Alleghany and Ashe counties.

Three constitutional amendments, providing for the (1) limitation of the state debt to 7-1-2 per cent of the assessed property valuation; (2) the inalienability of sinking funds to retire the State debt; and (3) to exempt from taxation one-half farm and residential property under mortgage and one-half of such mortgage, not to exceed \$8,000.

Raising the age of consent from 14 to 16, but amended to provide that violations by persons less than 18 shall be punished as misdemeanors.

Abolition of the criminal insane department of the State Prison, and providing for a sanatorium for the treatment of tubercular criminals.

Investigations Under resolutions passed by the House and Senate the following investigations were instituted.

Investigations of the charge of a deficit of \$5,000,000 in the State Treasury, begun under the joint finance committees and continued by authority of both Houses until the completion of an audit of the books.

Investigations of the relations between the State Department of Labor and Printing and contractors for State printing under charge of discrimination. After two weeks committee returned report disallowing the charges, but recommending certain changes in printing which were postponed indefinitely.

Investigation of charges of mismanagement, cruelty, extravagance and nepotism against Dr. L. B. McBrayer, superintendent of State sanatorium. Investigation continued until after adjournment on authority of the General Assembly.

### Major Bills Killed.

Proposals to issue \$2,000,000 for purchase and operation of State-owned steamship lines. Senate substitute provides \$25,000 and commission to investigate and report to Governor and General Assembly.

Proposals by Governor to establish new department of Commerce and Industry. Introduced and died in House.

Proposal to increase the number of Superior Court judges from 20 to 27. Killed in House.

Giles proposal to issue \$2,500,000 to assist farmers in owning their own homes. Killed in Senate. Investigating commission provided.

Moore-Parker-Warren Workmen's Compensation act. Killed in House.

All legislation dealing with the regulation of secret fraternal organizations. House passed Milliken bill twice. Senate adopted substitute and declined to concur in Milliken bill.

Proposal from 38 counties to elect county superintendents of public instruction by direct vote of the people. Killed in House.

Proposal to allow corporations to pay interest on two-year loans at eight per cent instead of the statutory six per cent. Killed in House.

Proposal to make incurable insanity grounds for divorce. Killed in House.

Proposal to tax and regulate public motor bus and motor truck lines. Killed in Senate.

Proposal to reduce age of juvenile criminals from 16 to 14 years. Senate amendment killed in House.

Proposal to abolish flogging of prisoners. Killed in Senate.

## NEGRO JAILED FOR KILLING SON

### Angry Mob Gathers At Home When Coroner's Inquest Is Held Over The Body

Murfreesboro, N. C., March 6.—In the presence of over four hundred people white and colored, Carey Vaughan, negro, and notorious for inflicting torture on the members of his family, was arrested Sunday morning at his home a few miles from Murfreesboro. The arrest followed the post mortem examination of his son who died Friday night and was buried Saturday without either death certificate or permit and against official orders to keep the body out until examination was made. His son Reuben, about 17 years old, stunted, and weighing less than 75 pounds was seen to be given the most violent and brutal beating by his father prior to his death.

Sunday morning at 10 o'clock between four and five hundred people had gathered at the home of Vaughan.

Dr. Futrell and Deputy sheriff Trader were the officers from Murfreesboro. The body was dug up and found to be upon examination a most horrible spectacle. It had been buried in the dirty rags in which he died. One arm was broken, shoulder blade dislocated, two toes gone, (he wore no shoes during the freezing weather) gash in his head; and the body from head to foot was covered with bruises, cuts and scars both old and new.

Dr. Futrell opened his skull, took out his brain which was found to be full of blood clots. Clots were found also in the cranium. From the examination the conclusion was reached that the blow that caused his death was given against the back of his head which was badly cut in. Dr. Futrell stitched his skull back and he was again buried.

Dr. Gary and six jurors from Murfreesboro held the inquest, after which Vaughan who during the proceedings, had been in a very agitated condition, was handcuffed without resistance. In the meantime, the colored people in their rage, clamored for expression and their sentiment ran high for lynching Vaughan, had they been allowed to do so.

Vaughan was brought to Murfreesboro and the trial was held at 3:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon. He was found guilty and sent to Winton jail where he awaits trial at the April term of Superior Court.

## Germany's President Gets \$15

Lenine and Trotsky are earning \$12 a week bossing Russia. No Russian official's salary may exceed 2,200,000 rubles, or \$55 a month. This makes the salary of all the highest Bolshevik leaders \$12 a week. However, the reds are plutocrats compared with the German executives. With marks at more than 20,000 to the dollar President Ebert's annual salary of 300,000 marks is \$15 a year, about \$1.40 a month, or about 40 cents a week. Better be a boss of a peasant stand in America.

## CONDEMNED MAN IS HOPEFUL

### Believes Governor Will Keep Him Out of the Electric Chair.

Raleigh, March 2.—Under sentence to be electrocuted, Jerry Dalton, who was twice convicted of murder following his slaying of Merrill Angel and Maude Grant in 1919 and who escaped only to have the reading of a birth announcement in California to result in his capture, believes in capital punishment "when a man wilfully kills another," he told the Associated Press today.

But Dalton, whose case has attracted nationwide attention, does not believe he should be executed for the crime for which he was convicted, because, according to his statement, he killed Miss Grant, described as a "sacinating widow," through accident and Angel in self defense.

"I want to live but I do not fear death. I can walk into that room yonder," pointing to the cell in which the electric chair stands, "with a clear conscience. But if I die in this manner, it will be an injustice because I have not been given a fair trial. I believe in capital punishment when a man wilfully kills another."

"When I came upon Angel and Mrs. Grant riding together on a road to Franklin, she wanted to go with me. This angered Angel and the quarrel started. He reached for his gun. I pulled mine and the trigger caught in my clothing, discharging and killing the woman. I then shot Angel."

Throughout the trial, it was charged that Mrs. Grant was a "sweetheart of Dalton. This was denied by Dalton today. He declared that he "had gone with her," but was "not in love with her."

After his first trial, Dalton was granted another hearing by the state Supreme court, which found an error in the charge of the Macon county Superior court judge, Judge Bis Ray was the presiding jurist. In the second trial, Judge T. A. Bryson presided and Dalton again was found guilty and sentenced to be electrocuted.

Dalton escaped from the Buncombe county jail, while awaiting removal to the "death row" at the state prison. Stories were published to the effect that the prisoner had escaped through the use of an airplane and the assistance of friends.

The love of a woman for a prisoner in the jail, however, led to the escape, according to Dalton. She brought her lover a pound cake in which was concealed a thine file, he said. Dalton and the other prisoners worked at night and finally separated the bars. The man who received the file was too stout to get through the opening, and the other inmates went away into the night, while he languished in the heat of a sultry July night.

After walking across the mountains for nine nights, Dalton caught a train. He traveled toward the west, stopping in Wyoming, Montana, Oregon, and California. Then he went to Mexico, but returned to San Diego. He assumed the name of Bill Birchfield, later became superintendent of a laundry and was going to a night school at the time of his capture.

day, a birth notice attracted Dalton's attention. The child's mother was the escaped convict's aunt, residing only three blocks away. For many months Dalton said, he had been homesick. He longed to hear news from home and to learn how his widowed mother was faring.

For months, he visited the aunt and heard from his mother. Finally, the family moved to Michigan, but secret of Dalton's life to her "bosom friend." The "bosom friend" told her "best friend." The wife of a court official then heard the secret. A reward of nearly a thousand dollars had been offered in North Carolina. The result: Dalton was arrested and returned to North Carolina.

Dalton appealed to the Supreme court, but this body refused to consider the appeal. The friends of the condemned man now are appealing to Governor Cameron Morrison to intercede in his behalf by commutating the sentence to life imprisonment. Dalton was leading a model life in California, they asserted.

"If it had not been for whiskey," Dalton said today, "I would not be here now. I was drinking at the time the shooting occurred."

"I have not been given justice," he continued, "and I do not believe the governor is going to let me die in the electric chair."