

## Mob Leaders Given Long Sentences in the Penitentiary

**Ten Men, With Aggregate of 75 Years, Are Marched Out Mid Wailings of Their Families**

Williamston, May 19.—Amid the wails of their assembled families massed in the dock with them ten confessed and convicted members of the mob charged with the mutilation of Joseph Needleman were led away at noon today to begin the service of sentences at hard labor in the State prison, ranging from one to 30 years and behind them closed the curtain on the last act of the Martin county horror. The aggregate of the sentences is 75 years.

Identified by his victims as the actual perpetrator of the mutilation Henry Dennis Griffin, 39-years-old Robinsville barber, received the heaviest sentence imposed by Judge Sinclair. He will be 69 years old when he gets out. Both the Sparrows—the younger having entered a plea of guilty—and Julian Bullock were sentenced to serve from 6 to 10 years, and Claro Heath for whom the jury asked mercy two to three years.

**Needleman Held Not Guilty**  
Just before sentence was passed upon the mob members Solicitor Don Gilliam asked the court to direct a verdict of not guilty against Needleman on the charge of criminal assault, "the state finds itself without evidence sufficient to convict and with the consent of the private prosecution, I ask that a verdict of not guilty be entered in his case." Judge Sinclair ordered that guards who have constantly attended him in the hospital be relieved.

"I think this trial has demonstrated to the people of North Carolina that they can trust the courts," declared Judge Sinclair in passing sentence. He scored the critics of the courts declared that there is no such thing as the unwritten law, and the thing that is called the unwritten law is nothing but the excuse of cowards to justify their own lawlessness.

**Tears and Whispered Words**  
Again the court room was filled hours before appointed time for convening court this morning. Prisoners at liberty on bond came and those who are confined to the jail were brought in early to find their families waiting there for them. There were tears and whispered words of comfort. The wives of Griffin and Bullock cried audibly for an hour before court convened.

Conferences delayed Judge Sinclair almost an hour in convening court, but the throng waited in almost dead silence. Then nearly an hour was taken up by attorneys pleading the leniency of the court for their clients about to be sentenced. Of these the most effective was presented by John Dawson on behalf of young Heath. Dawson himself was almost overcome with emotion as he spoke of the youth and character of the prisoner.

Because of the great number of defendants to be disposed of Judge Sinclair recessed court for an hour to compose his judgment. Few left the court room. The crowd waited silently in a sort of frozen anticipation. Noon came and the court was reconvened. An even stiller hush fell over the crowd broken only by intermittent hysterical sobs from somewhere among the women relatives of the prisoners.

First among the prisoners to be dealt with were two boys, Ben Lilly and Johnnie Griffin, aged 15. Judgment was suspended upon them, conditioned upon a bond of \$200 to appear in court for two years and prove behavior. Solicitor Don Gilliam then asked the court to be lenient with Elder E. C. Stone and John Gurkin in consequence of their assistance to the State in the prosecution. He said that he had agreed to ask that their punishment be lightened.

"Let E. C. Stone serve not less than two nor more than three years at hard labor in the State Prison, and let John Gurkin be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than 18 months nor more than two years," directed the court. "It is with regret that I must lighten their sentences. I believe them guilty as any man in the case with the exception of Dennis Griffin."

Then he read down the list, imposing these judgments.  
W. W. Sparrow, Sr., six to ten years.  
F. W. Sparrow, Jr., six to ten years.  
Julian Bullock, six to ten years.

Claro Heath, two to three years.  
Roy Gray, one to two years.  
Alfred Griffin, one to two years.  
Lester Edmundson, Tom Harrell, L. A. Croom, John Gray Cory, Jim Horton Coltrane, Clarence Gurkin, Hubert Griffin, and A. Wilson Griffin to pay a fine of \$500 each and the costs in the case and to be held in jail until the fines are paid.

**Forbids "Reception" at Jail**  
"Sheriff, take these men to jail, and I want no public receptions there. The jail is no place for social functions. These men are pronounced felons. If they must see relatives, arrange for it under proper supervision," were the Judge's orders.

"Line up this way, boys," said the Sheriff.  
There were hysterical farewells. Bullock broke down for the first time since the trial began and wept. Clayro Heath maintained the calm self possession that he has shown up to the end. The Sparrows appeared to be dazed. There were anguished wails, as the line filed out, and the last scene of the tragedy had been acted out. Court adjourned for the morning, and Martin county turned back toward its usual pursuits.

**MOB LEADERS SAID TO BE GOOD FELLOWS**  
**Commends Prisoners As He Turns Them Over to Warden At State Prison**

Raleigh, May 16.—Prison gates swung too yesterday at one o'clock on nine convicted members of the mob that mutilated Joseph Needleman in Martin county.  
Three automobiles carrying the nine men dropped over the hill and across the railroad tracks into the prison with Sheriff H. T. Robertson, of Martin county, in charge. In each of the three automobiles, two armed guards accompanied three prisoners. Soon afterwards the three cars left the prison empty and wearing stripes the Martin county mutilators were swallowed up as mere convicts among hundreds of others at the prison.

"You won't have any trouble with these men," Sheriff Robertson told Dr. J. H. Norman before he left the prison. "They are all good fellows, just flew off of a sudden and got in bad."  
The men took their imprisonment stoically and showed interest in the prison life into which they entered. The Rev. Mr. Stone, Englishman and Primitive Baptist preacher, who is sentenced to from two to three years, declared that not a single one of the men convicted had ever had a warrant served on him previous to the mutilation.

Griffin, who as the actual mutilator and leader of the mob, is sentenced to 30 years, offered an attitude of bravado.  
"There ain't nothing to do but grit your teeth and bear it," declared Clayro Heath.  
The prisoners were given the antiseptic bath and clothed in the stripes of "C" grade prisoners. Dr. Norman, the warden, impressed upon the men the advantage of good behavior for which one-third off is given on sentences. They asked him about the prison rules. One asked if he had to pay to be shaved. One wanted to know if he could sing in his cell. Another asked if there was a vacancy as prison barber.

The work, to which the new men will be put had not been determined last night but under the rules of the prison they will go to the work for which they are fitted by physical ability and training.  
It's clean and sanitary here anyhow," Griffin said as he began his thirty long years.

**Cost \$120 To Open Door**  
Since even a Samson could not qualify as doorman, electricity does the opening and shutting of the two biggest doors in the world, each weighing more than 2000 tons, which slide aside to permit the two giant dirigibles, "Shenandoah" and "Los Angeles" to emerge from the Navy's hangar at Lakehurst, N. J. Each of these concrete and steel portals is 130 feet in width and 177 feet high, and slides aside on trucks and rails. It requires half an hour and costs \$120 to open this shed door.

## ROCKEFELLER HEIRESS BRIDE OF YOUNG LAWYER

**Omit the Word "Obey"—To Do Own Housekeeping. Wealthy Young Woman Plans to Live on the Income of Lawyer-Husband**

New York, May 14.—Miss Abby Rockefeller, heiress to one of the greatest fortunes in the world, was married today to David Meriwether Milton, young New York attorney, at a simple ceremony witnessed only by members of the immediate families and relatives. The wedding took place in the drawing room of the home of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., her father, at 10 West 54th street.

Rev. Cornelius Woolfkin, pastor of the Park Avenue Baptist church, known as the "Rockefeller" church, performed the ceremony.  
John D. Rockefeller, Sr., came from his Lakewood, N. J. home to attend the wedding. His arrival was the signal for a crowd of approximately 600 persons watching in the street outside, to break through a police guard and crowd about the occupied entrance to the mansion for a glimpse of the veteran oil magnate.

The wedding ceremony started promptly at 4:30 o'clock. The wedding march from Lohengrin was played on the organ as the procession passed down a specially constructed aisle, set off by flower-decorated posts chained together with white satin cords. The altar was covered with white silk.

The bridal march was led by Rev. Mr. Woolfkin, followed by the bridegroom and his best man, Albert Fink Milton, a brother. The maid of honor, Miss Ellen Milton, the bridegroom's sister, came next wearing a dress of dyranage blue chiffon.

Mr. Rockefeller, with his daughter Abby on his arm, followed. The bride wore a gown of silver colored net with a train embroidered points de Paris lace. Her net veil had a very narrow border of Honiton lace and she carried orchids and gardenias.

"Obey" Omitted  
The single ring ceremony was used and the word "obey" was omitted from the marriage vows.  
A reception to 1,200 guests followed the wedding.

The Milton's honeymoon will be a two months' sojourn in Europe and they are taking a roadster in which to tour the continent. On their return they will occupy an apartment the address of which has not been made public.

Mr. Milton and his bride, in early childhood were playmates on the adjoining Rockefeller and Milton estates at Pocantico Hills, N. Y.

Mrs. Milton is the only daughter of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. With her five brothers, all younger, she presumably will share in the fortune of her wealthy father. After Abby's engagement Mr. Rockefeller announced that he had provided trust funds for all his children to be drawn upon later in accordance with their requirements.

**Encouraging**  
Sign in a Chicago neighborhood restaurant: "Don't be afraid to ask for credit. Our refusal will be polite."—The Christian Register.

## MEREDITH MAY BE READY THIS YEAR

**Hope to Move College During Christmas Holidays; Need \$200,000 on Plant**

Assurances have been received from the contractors that the new \$1,200,000 plant of Meredith College now being erected three miles west of Raleigh will be completed before the end of this year and in that event the college will move to its new quarters during the Christmas holidays. President Charles E. Brewer stated today.

Dr. Brewer stated that the college would not break into a term in order to move, but that if the transfer can be made during the Christmas holidays such a course will be advantageous from several standpoints. An early transfer would give the college community time to become settled in its new home before it is filled to capacity and it is felt that such a move might expedite the sale of the present college property on the square adjoining the Governor's Mansion. Negotiations are now pending for the sale of the property, which the college is holding at a minimum figure of \$250,000. The present junior class at the college is very desirous of being the first class to graduate at the new Meredith and is pressing for an early transfer.

The \$750,000 realized in bonds sold by the North Carolina Baptist convention and the \$250,000 expected from the sale of the present site will make up the one million dollars necessary for the six permanent and three temporary buildings now being erected on the new site, but an added \$100,000 needed for equipment and other expenses, is not yet in sight.

The college now has room for less than 300 students but the capacity has been increased to 340 by two rented buildings. The new plant will house 500 students and Dr. Brewer stated that applications for more than that number have been made each session for the past several years.

The permanent buildings which are being erected are four dormitories, a combined library and administrative building and a dining hall and kitchen. The temporary buildings are an auditorium, a science building, and a class room building, all of these structures being one story in height. No provision has yet been made for members of the faculty but 35 of the present 51 faculty members can be cared for in the dormitories and several of the professors are planning to build homes near the new college property.

## Federal Agent Held, Accused of Assault

Greensboro, May 15.—Henry Brooks, Wilkes county man, today entered suit for ten thousand dollars in Federal Court here against R. L. Lovelace, prohibition agent in Yadkin and Wilkes counties. The plaintiff claims that he was assaulted last January by Lovelace, near Fishing Creek Arbor, Wilkes county, beat over the head with a pistol, and his skull fractured in five places causing deafness and impairment of sight. Brooks further claims that Lovelace was drunk at the time.

## Convict Sends His Peg Leg Home; County Is Perplexed

Greensboro, May 17.—Can the Guilford county courts sentence a wooden leg to the county roads?

That is a question that is pestering Commissioner J. Giles Foushee right much, after sundry events related below had taken place at the county convict camp. The gist of the matter is, that if the courts can't sentence a wood leg, then the county may have to buy such an article as part of the "necessary equipment."

It all came about when Bob Hannah, aged Guilford county white man was sent to the roads for a period by the court. Captain Foushee, seeing that Hannah moved through the world on a wooden leg, gave him a very easy job, that of opening and shutting the gate at the county stockade.

Came a time when the call of the dandelions and the lure of the great outdoors was too much for Hannah, so he vacated his post and walked away—running being out of question. Down country a ways someone recognized the fugitive and brought

him back demanding the usual ten dollars which was paid.

Captain Foushee sent Hannah back to his post at the gate. However, the disappointment of not getting away was so keen that revenge must be had so when a friend came to the camp to visit him the cripple unstrapped his wooden leg, gave it to the friend and told him to take it home.

"That there leg is personal property," said Hannah in effect, and added, "that he be teetotally hornswoogled if he was going to wear it out working for the county."

The leg was gone, the man standing on one leg had great difficulty in opening the gate and had to be replaced. The whole camp was in a state of mild mutiny after the example set by the obstreperous Hannah.

Captain Foushee was searching his head in perplexity Saturday. Is the county going to buy a wooden leg? Did the court sentence the other leg? Or is the prisoner going to get away with it? That's what he wants to know.

## State to Build 1,000 Miles of Good Roads in 1925

**PILOT BANK ROBBERS NOW IN JAIL AT DANVILLE**

**One of Those at Danville Identified as Farlow, Alleged Safe-Blower**

Danville, May 15.—Evidence against the three suspected yeggmen held here continued to pile up today. While M. E. Murray, postoffice inspector, was beginning to take a hand in things this evening W. L. Redman, postmaster of Pilot Mountain and W. M. Matthews, cashier of the Farmers Bank at that place came here with valuable links. On the floor of the half wrecked postoffice Redman picked up a piece of fuse identical with that taken from the three men. Matthews brought specimens of envelopes for small change, especially made for the bank, these corresponding with those containing alleged loot taken from the men. Two money bags taken from the men one from the Wachovia Bank at Winston and one from Planters Bank at Richmond were described by Matthews as similar to those in the vault before blown and now missing from it. The three have retained counsel, Sheriff Krider of Rowan county has identified "Hiram Marks" as Jerry Farlow who some years ago was in jail there on a safe-blowing charge.

## Dynamite Found in Tobacco of Yeggmen

Danville, Va., May 15.—Police yesterday frustrated what was believed to be a step by three men held in the Danville jail as professional yeggmen towards an attempted jail delivery, when Detective Campbell discovered 46 dynamite caps, which were concealed in cans of tobacco being taken to the prisoners. Detectives Campbell and Lewis were in the jail with a photographer to make more pictures of the three men. One of the trio, who has not yet given a name, asked Campbell if he would go to his room at the hotel and bring him his tobacco and cigarettes. The officer consented and brought back two cans of smoking tobacco and several packages of cigarettes.

Campbell took notice that the cans were unusually heavy and on examining them found the dynamite fuses, about the size of a cigarette in copper tubes. It is said the caps placed together would have enough explosive power to blow a hole in the wall of the jail. However, the officers could not see how the men could benefit for the reason that they are thrice enclosed in strong cells. Three distinct operations would become necessary before an escape could be effected.

It is thought, however, that the plan of the suspects was to hide the caps and await a more favorable opportunity. It was said that a cap inserted in the locks would blow them off while others could be used as grenades which could be thrown at the feet of the officers in a wild dash for liberty.

The three men were further involved yesterday by additional evidence. Certain moneys and articles found in possession of the men were identified by officials from various towns in North Carolina, where robberies had occurred recently. S. C. Lawrence, chief of police of Pilot Mountain, where a postal robbery occurred, identified one of the men, with whom he engaged in a conversation the day before the robbery.

## PEOPLE CALL FOR ROAD SENTENCES

**Judge Bond Gets Many Letters Protesting Against Fines As Penalties**

Pittsboro, May 16.—Judge W. M. Bond, presiding over Chatham county superior court here this week, said from the bench that he had never in all his career as a judge received so many letters from the best people of the county, mostly women urging him to give road sentences for the violation of the liquor laws and not let the law-breakers off with fines.

The court docket was unusually heavy, there being 94 cases awaiting trial. The defendants were mostly white people and the offenses were mainly some form of violation of the liquor laws.

## Five Hundred Miles to Be New Hard-Surface Highway

Raleigh, May 15.—The state Highway commission expects to build a thousand miles of roads during 1925, according to Chairman Frank Page, who anticipates ample finances to keep the program going in full blast. Practically half of the mileage will be hard-surfaced, the other half sand clay and grading, on roads located in all of the 16 construction districts and touching practically every county in the state.

## Many Contracts Let

Nearly 400 miles have been already let to contract this year. In addition the road builders have completed a big mileage under projects launched in 1924. And three or four more lettings, scheduled for the summer and fall, will bring the aggregate mileage up to the goal set by the highway chief.

In addition to funds provided by the 65,000,000 bond issues left over from last year, around \$15,000,000 will be available for 1925. Ten millions will come from the bond authorization of the 1925 legislature, and the other five from federal aid, loans by counties and other sources.

The road builders are making unusually good headway just now, Mr. Page said. Circumstances are favorable, contractors are at work in every district and labor is available. Many miles of new roads will be laid during the summer months.

The state reached the high mark for construction mileage in 1923 when a thousand miles were built for the first time. Last year around 800 miles were constructed.

Contracts will be awarded at a letting set for June 9 of 11 construction projects in 10 counties to cost approximately \$1,000,000. The projects involve 47 miles of hard surfaced and 40 miles of graded roads.

## FAIR PRICES FOR TOBACCO LIKELY

**Leaf Tobacco Held by Manufacturers and Dealers Less Than Usual**

Wilson, May 13.—While it is rather early to make a forecast with any degree of accuracy, indications now point to at least fair prices for tobacco the coming season.

Leaf tobacco commission merchants report sales very sluggish on redried tobacco, yet the Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce in its last report gives the amount of leaf tobacco held by manufacturers and dealers in the bright yellow district of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia on April 1 around 39,000,000 pounds less than the same date last year.

Reliable reports for England give the amount of tobacco on hand in that country about 14,000,000 pounds less now than one year ago. So taking these figures as a criterion, things look favorable for fair prices.

Present indications do not point to a large acreage as a whole being "pitched" this season in the bright leaf belt over last season. The only section of the bright leaf belt that "pitched" a larger crop than last year is Georgia, but ever with favorable seasons the yield would have been, down there, not over an increase of 20,000,000 pounds.

Dry weather has, however, played havoc with the Georgia tobacco crop in many sections and it is pathetic to read some of the Georgia letters regarding crop conditions.

Farmers in eastern North Carolina report their crops as looking "fairly well."

## Speedy "Reduction" Through Surgery

Kinston, May 15.—A patient in Parrott Memorial Hospital here is convalescing after an unusual operation. Twenty-seven pounds of fat were removed from the abdomen of a woman whose 325 pounds of avoirdupois were burdensome to her. Dr. Albert DeK. Parrott, of the hospital staff, performed the operation. The patient is "doing nicely" it was stated at the institution today.

An incision was made from flank to flank and a layer of flesh eight inches wide laid back to remove the fat. A "pad" weighing 27 pounds was taken off and the patient was "bumped up" again weighing less than 300 pounds. She came here from a South-country point.