

The Mountain Airy News

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE 25th, 1925.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

World Rejoices Over Return of Amundsen and His Party

Flaw Nearly to Pole and Would Have Reached It But Gas Gave Out—Will Try Again

Stockholm, Sweden, June 19.—A dispatch received here from Oslo, Norway, says the two airplanes in which Amundsen's expedition set out for the north pole on May 21 arrived in Spitzbergen Tuesday afternoon. The dispatch indicates that the members of the expedition are safe and that it is likely a new attempt to reach the pole will be made shortly.

The dispatch received here says Amundsen used so much fuel that he was unable to continue and after descending in latitude 87.10 was forced to return to Spitzbergen.

Latitude 87.10 where the Stockholm dispatch says Amundsen came down because of a shortage in his supply of gas is only about 200 miles from the north pole and about 600 miles from King's Bay, Spitzbergen, where the expedition took off for the flight.

Prior to the arrival of the Stockholm dispatch, indications were that the Amundsen planes had returned to Spitzbergen Thursday instead of Tuesday as the Stockholm advices have it but Tuesday mentioned in the Stockholm dispatch possibly may be an error in transmission of the cable.

More Planes Available

If Amundsen's planes have been damaged by the ice, there still are two other planes in Spitzbergen which he and his party can use in another endeavor to fly to the north pole and back. These two planes, belonging to the Norwegian government expedition sent to the north to try to locate the missing north pole expedition, arriving at King's Bay Wednesday from Norway. They were transported from Norton on board the steamer Ingertre and were put in the water at Advent Bay, whence they flew over the glaciers to King's Bay. The planes were said to be in the best of condition to start at any minute on a long flight over the ice regions.

The machines used by Amundsen were German seaplanes which were built in Pisa, Italy. When they took off from King's Bay they had on board everything deemed necessary in the way of equipment and provisions. The loaded machines each weighed 3,000 kilos (6,612 pounds), the greatest load consisting of gas, each machine having on board about 5,000 pounds. This quantity was considered by Amundsen as sufficient for the expedition to reach the pole and return to Spitzbergen, still having a small supply in the tanks.

MACMILLAN HOLDS THE STAGE AWHILE

Amundsen, it is Reported, Will Await Results of American's Voyage

Oslo, Norway, June 20.—Captain Roald Amundsen's plans for another aerial dash to the North pole are understood to be contingent upon the success of the MacMillan expedition, which set out from Wiscasset, Maine, today, better equipped for scientific research.

News of MacMillan's departure created intense interest here.

Most observers and Polar scientists gathered here to give Amundsen a royal welcome, when he returns from Spitzbergen, believe that the MacMillan expedition has a much better chance for extensive observation and research than did Amundsen, although the American's venture lacks some of the spectacular features of the Norwegian's effort.

Amundsen is very tired from his four-weeks' battle with the ice on short rations, and he lost most of his equipment. Months will have to elapse before another expedition could be organized and financed and by that time MacMillan may have secured most of the scientific data that Amundsen tried for and failed.

Cuts a Fruit Cake Baked 20 Years Ago

Luray, June 18.—The length of the life of a fruit cake has just been established in this county, when Mrs. W. I. Jones, wife of a traveling salesman, recently cut one that was baked twenty years ago and which was as palatable and retained all of its qualities as though it had been baked only twenty-four hours. The cake was originally baked for a wedding

THOROUGH INSPECTION OF PRISONS PLANNED

Investigation of All State and County Convict Camps to Be Made by State Authorities.

Raleigh, June 20.—A thorough inspection of all state and county prison camps will be conducted by the state board of health and the board of charities and public welfare, working co-operatively.

Plans for joint action, to provide the most complete investigation of North Carolina prison conditions yet made were mapped out at a conference today between Dr. G. M. Cooper, acting director of the health board and Mrs. Kate Burr Johnston, commissioner of public welfare.

The health department will furnish a sanitary engineer to handle inspectional work dealing with health and sanitation in the campus. He will work under the supervision of the welfare department, which is charged with the supervision of humane conditions in the camps.

Heretofore the two departments have worked separately the health board inspecting health conditions and the welfare board reporting on the treatment and care of prisoners. The plan for co-operation on the part of the two departments is expected to greatly increase the effectiveness of inspectional work and make possible a more thorough investigation.

Six months probably will be required to complete the survey of all the camps. In addition to a dozen or more state camps, there are chain-gangs in operation in perhaps 80 of the 100 counties.

Tom P. Jimison is Reading Law Under Dr. N. Y. Gulley

Raleigh, June 21.—Tom P. Jimison, former member of the Methodist conference and La Follette's elector at large last fall attended the Bible class of J. W. Bailey at the First Baptist church this morning, then the service at the Christian church, where the speaker of the morning asked the labor man and picturesque preacher of former days to lead the congregation in prayer after the address. Mr. Jimison did so.

The Spencer man is attending law lectures at Wake Forest and studying under Dr. Needham Y. Gulley, noted law teacher of the Baptist college. Mr. Jimison has not indicated where he will practice or when he will try the Supreme court, but there is nobody who doubts that he will make a successful practitioner. He has read law before and ought to find it easy.

Dry Raiders Mistake Each Other For Rum Makers, One Is Dead

Huntington, W. Va., June 20.—William F. Porter, a Federal prohibition officer, was shot and killed; W. E. Workman, state officer, was shot twice and seriously wounded, and George Ball, chief of state officers was wounded in a gun battle between federal and state officers in Camp Creek in Wayne county early today.

The battle started when federal and state officers, both approaching a still location from opposite sides, mistook each other for moonshiners.

Homer Joy, another federal officer, said he was sleeping on a hill overlooking the scene of the suspected still when he heard shooting. He flashed his light and recognizing Ball in the state forces, yelled to the men to stop shooting but could not be heard above the din.

Porter had thrown F. J. Poe, a state officer to the ground and was grappling with him, Joy said. Porter was believed to have recognized Poe and started to let him up, thinking Poe had also recognized him. Then, Joy said, Poe fired and Porter fell. Joy covered Poe with his gun and ordered him to disarm before Poe realized that he had been fighting fellow officers.

A party of young women returning from a hay ride came upon Workman and Porter lying beside the roadside on the Wayne road and brought them to Huntington. Porter was dead and Workman was shot through the head and shoulder. He was taken to the Huntington hospital in a serious condition. The nature of Ball's injury had not been learned.

ELECTRIC CHAIR RECORDS BROKEN

George Love Dies; 1925 Total Now 10, Greater Than Any Other Entire Year

Raleigh, June 20.—Once populous death row at the State's Prison is a lonesome place today, its total population consisting of two negroes, one crazy, for yesterday they took George Love out and electrocuted him for the murder of Bill Brock, a white man, running the total of executions for the year up to a record-breaking ten.

When Will Williams, negro, was electrocuted one week ago, the toll of the death machine for the year 1925 equaled, with nine, the totals of the other two "heavy" years, 1911 and 1916. When George Love was pronounced dead the total for the first six months of 1925 was pushed ahead of the total of any preceding twelve months since the death chair was established in 1909. The ten executions follow on the heels of 1924, when only one man was electrocuted.

Death row could not even raise a condemned dut to cheer George along on his last short walk, for Cheatham Evans, half of the death row inmates, is too crazy with the dread of approaching death to carry a tune.

Two local negro pastors stayed with Love through his last minutes, however, and helped him out with prayer and camp-meeting music, in which the doomed man lifted a hearty voice.

When the hand of Executioner Joe Stone pushed the death switch home, the deep bass of the roaring dynamo rose to a whining, whirling soprano, and the muscles on the throat of the man who had lately been singing himself, bulged and twisted, as the water hissed, steamed and boiled and trickled down on the brow of the dying man.

The taut body in the chair alternately rose and slumped as the executioner turned the switchboard knob that regulates the number of amperes mingled with the eighteen hundred volts. When a large number of amperes were turned on the fingers would clench, the muscles would bulge and the body strain against the straps as though it were trying to escape.

Then the amperage would be lowered momentarily and the body would seem to relax in a gesture of relief, only to be snapped up by another injection of amperes.

After two minutes and forty-five seconds of this process which was divided into two shocks the man was pronounced dead. He was unstrapped, placed in a basket and hauled away for his family.

Love was visited by his father and wife yesterday morning several hours before his death and affectionate farewells were said. Then the preachers came and prayed and sang with him.

Once the doomed man left his cell and entered the death chamber he did not have a word to say, although his cell-bleached lips moved in silent prayer. Almost three years of confinement had left their mark on him for his skin was as fair as that of any white man and fairer than that of many.

He was convicted in the Haywood Superior Court in February, 1923 and sentenced to die. He took an appeal and got a new trial. A Henderson county jury again found him guilty of murder in the first degree in September, 1924, and he was again sentenced to die. Governor McLean declined to interfere with the sentence.

Remaining inmates of death row are Cheatham Evans, negro, whose mind has cracked from thinking about death, and Arthur Montague, negro rapist. Montague has an appeal before the Supreme Court which will automatically stay his execution until next autumn anyway.

Thirty Mexican Rebels Executed

Mexico City, June 19.—Thirty members of the remaining rebel groups in the state of Vera Cruz have been executed within the last fortnight, according to a report to General Almazan, military commandant. Capture of the rebels was made possible thru the discovery of a curious code by which the various groups communicated. The code involved the use of pacts and cards.

Other reports to the war department received from the military commanders in Chihuahua and Coahuila announce that the followers of Adolfo De La Huerta have renewed their activities along the border, hoping to avail themselves of a break between the United States and Mexico.

WATAUGA OFFICER KILLS YOUNG MAN

Trouble Starts When Officer and Chief of Police Search Two Cars But Fail to Find Any Whiskey

Blowing Rock, June 21.—Leopard Triplett, aged about 20, is dead and H. W. Wooten, 40, deputy sheriff, of Watauga county and former chief of police of Blowing Rock, is in jail at Boone under a charge of murder as a result of an affray about two miles northwest of here last night.

The affray had its inception in a raid made by Wooten and Chief of Police J. V. Baugus, on a small roadster occupied by Triplett and two companions, Hal Teague and Jack Hampton. Immediately following the killing which occurred about 10:30 last night, feeling against Wooten ran high and it was due to the fact that he made his way as quickly as possible to Boone, where he surrendered and was placed in jail, that more serious consequences were not the result. Feeling today was still high and officers were closely watching the situation, although no special preparations were being made to offset them.

On Liquor Raid

It seems from all information obtainable that Baugus and Wooten, the latter of whom did police duty here in addition to his work as deputy sheriff of Watauga county, were out on a liquor raid. Wooten said in jail this morning at Boone that they had information that Triplett and his companions were bringing liquor into Blowing Rock. According to best accounts, they stopped the car bearing Triplett and his companions and searched it.

Finding no liquor they ordered him to move on and went to raid another car in the same party which contained six young men. No liquor was found here also, Wooten said. While they were raiding the second car, it is said that Triplett and his companions came up and began abusing the officers who had raided them and had found no whiskey. Here is where the evidence conflicts.

The side represented by the officers states that Triplett and his crowd began assaulting Wooten while the other side claims that nothing of the sort was attempted.

Wooten's Story

Wooten stated this morning that seven of the men in the party jumped on him and that he tried to make for his automobile. He said that while he was on the running board of his car the crowd started at him again and that he shot in self defense. The other side claims that Wooten addressed Triplett with an oath, saying, "I'll get you, you—" and forthwith shot. Death was instantaneous. Wooten admitted none in either auto party was armed.

The body of Triplett was brought back to Blowing Rock in the second car that was raided and Wooten immediately made his way to Boone, where he gave himself into the custody of Sheriff L. M. Farthing and is being held pending a hearing, which is scheduled for tomorrow.

Chief of Police Baugus would not discuss the affair with newspaper men today and failed to confirm the version given out by Wooten as to the assault other than to say he thought they assaulted him. He stated that his full testimony would be given on when the case comes to trial.

Patrick Orchards, Inc., Is Adjudged to be Bankrupt

Danville, Va., June 18.—Patrick Orchards, incorporated, one of the largest fruit growing concerns in this section of Virginia, has been adjudged bankrupt by Federal Judge H. C. McDowell to whom papers were recently sent. First word of the failure reached here today with the arrival of the usual order from Judge McDowell to Frank Talbott, Jr., referee in bankruptcy in the fifth district of Virginia. Mr. Talbott said that a meeting of the creditors would be called within the next 10 days for the purpose of appointing trustees.

The assets are listed at \$667,709.75, and the liabilities at \$228,478.06. The concern owns 2,432 acres of land valued at \$100,000 and 79,000 apple trees valued at \$562,000. M. V. Stedman, of Stuart, is general manager of the orchards and J. R. Neal secretary and treasurer, the identity of the president not being given, though Mr. Stedman holds the position. The reason for the filing of papers is the failure of the crop last year.

Robert M. La Follette Dies Peacefully in Washington

Sidna Allen is Evangelist For Penitentiary

Richmond, June 19.—Sidna Allen, a member of the famous Allen clan which shot up the court at Hillsville in 1912 killing several of the court officials and wounding others has become an evangelist in the Virginia penitentiary where he is serving a term of thirty-five years for his part in the affair, it developed today. It is said that he first evinced an interest in religion several years ago and has since been a regular attendant at exercises in the prison chapel, frequently making talks to his fellow convicts, urging them to pin their faith to the Almighty and lead righteous lives. He also endeavors to spread the gospel in his daily contact with other prisoners.

According to prison officials, he contemplates making this his regular calling after he leaves prison. He cherishes hopes of getting a pardon in a few years. He has already made several unsuccessful attempts in this direction. His brother, Rev. Jasper Allen, a preacher of the Primitive Baptist faith, is reported to have been expounding the gospel in the Hillsville section for many years, but he himself never manifested any interest in religious matters until after he was committed to the penitentiary.

Two members of the Allen clan paid the death penalty for their part in the Hillsville affair. They were Floyd Allen, his brother, and Claude Swanson Allen, son of Floyd Allen. Three others in addition to Sidna Allen, received prison sentences. These were Friel Allen, Sidna Edwards and Wesley Edwards.

Within the past two or three years Friel Allen and Sidna Edwards have been pardoned, leaving Wesley Edwards and Sidna Allen the only remaining members of the clan in prison.

These two men fled the state after the Hillsville tragedy but were captured some months later in Des Moines, Iowa, while living there under assumed names.

At the time of the tragedy, Sidna Allen was operating a country store near Hillsville.

Arrests in "Kissing Case" Cause Protest

Bristol, Va., June 19.—Whether a young man of good character when riding with his sweetheart on the public highways has a legal right to kiss her is a question that has stirred Bristol as has nothing in years.

The question arose several days ago when two high school students, a boy and a girl of exceptional character and reputation, were arrested in a car on a paved street in Bristol and forced to put up \$25 in bond to keep from going to jail. Their names went on the police docket as having been charged with disorderly conduct. The young man's offense consisted of having placed his arm around the girl and attempting to kiss her in the presence of two deputy sheriffs, who were secluded by the roadside. A kiss, under these circumstances, is a violation of law, the officers contend.

The arrest brought a storm of protest from leading citizens, who claim that the deputies exercised lack of judgment in placing a stigma on the pair, whose intentions and morals, so far as could be learned, were not open to censure. There was a demand from the public that the names of the couple be erased from the police records and their money refunded.

It was disclosed that scores of other young people had been arrested under similar conditions on roads leading out of Bristol and that many married couples have not been free from molestation.

11 Years For Turtle To Go Mile and Quarter

Cedar Falls, Ia., June 19.—Harry Peterson, of this city, has in his possession a terrapin, about ten inches long, that traveled a distance of only one mile in a period of 14 years.

In 1911 Peterson caught the terrapin on his father's farm, near New Hartford, Ia. Visiting at his old home recently he discovered the terrapin, marked with initials while walking through a field. The terrapin was a snail and a quarter from the point where he recalled turning it loose in 1911.

Leader Whose Whole Career Was a Fight Says at the Last He is at Peace With World

Washington, June 18.—Death brought to an end today the daring and stormy political career of Robert M. La Follette.

Peacefully, the Wisconsin senator, last year an independent candidate for President, passed away at his home here, a victim of heart attacks, from which he had been a sufferer for a decade, bronchitis and bronchial asthma.

To the last, Mr. La Follette sought to ward off death's thrust, as he had done on several occasions in recent years, but when he realized that the fight was a losing one, he called his son Robert, to his bedside, and in an almost inaudible voice, gave this last message to the public.

"I am at peace with all the world, but there is a lot of work I could still do. I don't know how the people will feel toward me, but I shall take to the grave my love for them which has sustained me through life."

Died Shortly After Noon

Confined to his bed for several weeks by illness which had wracked his body repeatedly in the last few years but had failed to weaken his fighting spirit, the senator suffered a heart attack this morning which brought to his physicians a realization that the end was near. He lapsed into unconsciousness shortly before noon, and died at 1:21 p. m., with his wife and other members of the family at his bedside.

Without ostentation, the body will be taken tomorrow to the senator's home, Madison, Wisconsin for burial. No services will be held here, but on insistence of those who stood shoulder to shoulder with him in his battles to Wisconsin, he will lie in state at the capital there Sunday, and funeral services will be held Monday in that building, where he once presided as governor.

Many Words of Tribute

Leaders of all political creeds were quick today to pay tribute to Senator La Follette and acknowledge his influence on contemporary American politics. One of the first to offer condolences to Mrs. La Follette was President Coolidge, who wrote:

"The news having just reached me of the death of Senator La Follette I wish to extend to you and your family the sympathy of myself and Mrs. Coolidge. As you know I presided over the senate for a considerable period while he was a member of great ability and untiring energy. He has left behind him a great concourse of friends, who will, I know, do everything in their power to comfort you in this hour, but my own experience tells me that nothing that mortal can do will be of very much help to you. I trust that you may, as the years go by, find an increasing satisfaction in the long list of honors that were conferred upon Senator La Follette by his countrymen."

Bank Wrecker Sought 12 Years is Brought Back

Providence, R. I., June 21.—John Wesley de Kay, sought for 12 years in connection with the wrecking of the Atlantic National bank in this city in 1913, arrived here today in custody of United States secret service agents from London, where he fought extradition for months. He was quartered for the night at the Biltmore hotel, under close guard. He will be arraigned tomorrow morning.

Henry de Kay, a brother, was paroled January 2 last, after serving 20 months at Rhode Island state prison as a federal prisoner on charges growing out of the \$200,000 bank failure.

Edward P. Metcalf, president of the bank, died in this city last July, six years after his parole from the federal penitentiary at Atlanta, where he had served three years.

Child Left in Garage Dies

Minneapolis, June 20.—Five-year-old Everett Libby was left asleep in the automobile when it was placed in the garage for the night. Today to was found dead.

His parents came home from a ride with Everett asleep in the rear seat. They retired, not thinking the other had brought the child into the house. Trying to get out of a window, Everett fell, breaking his neck.