

The Mount Airy Daily News.

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GERALD CHAPMAN HANGED FOR MURDER

Notorious Murderer Meets Death Calmly At Hour of Midnight—Walks Quietly Into Death Chamber and is Hanged

Wethersfield, Conn., April 6.—Gerald Chapman, notorious bandit was hanged at 12:04 o'clock this morning for the murder of a New Britain policeman.

Chapman was pronounced dead at 12:13 o'clock.

Chapman walked to the blue chalk circle on the floor of the death chamber in full strength. He looked quietly around, his glance lingering an instant on the closet in which the mechanism of the hanging machine was hidden.

Father Michael Barry entered the chamber with Chapman. He did not have a crucifix.

A few minutes before Chapman's neck was broken by the automatic hanging machine the third reprieve given him by Governor John H. Trumbull to permit counsel to battle in the courts for the man's life expired. The governor in final appeals for still another reprieve refused to grant "even another hour," the courts, federal and state, for lack of evidence or legal reasons having declined to grant a new trial. Chapman's hope for delay in execution, waning as his counsel lost in the courts, faded when the board of pardons rejected his application for commutation to life imprisonment.

Walks To Death Chamber

Chapman walked from the death cell to the death chamber, a distance of about 10 feet, across a narrow entry. In the death chamber a guard on either side of the nose, dangled the end of a new, well-stretched rope which disappeared in the ceiling, the unseen end being attached to the machine which was not within sight of the witness.

Chapman was in the clothing of a free man, the prison garb having been replaced while he was in the death cell, but he wore felt slippers. He wore a dark suit and low white collar.

The condemned man had been conducted from his cell occupied for a year on the second floor of the hospital wing of the prison to the room in which is the death cell, during the forenoon. His last meal was in this cell. A guard sat in front of the cell until others came to get the condemned man. Down the same flight of stairs from the first floor of the hospital ward to the entry which separated the room where Chapman was and the death chamber, walked the group of witnesses, in cadence which awakened an echo in the high ceiling passage. The building is a new one and this was the first execution in the chamber.

The witnesses and prison officials passed into the death chamber. The midnight hour had come and the reprieve was ended. The door was closed. All except the parole clerk and the warden passed by the dangling noose and took seats on benches in the rear of the room, ten feet from the rope, while the parole clerk and the warden passing to the left stopped at a metal coverlet into the floor in the extreme left hand corner, their figures masking a plunger which protruded from the cover much like an automobile footbrake.

It required only a minute to seat the witnesses. The chamber door opened and Chapman with his arms bound by a leather strap, a guard on either side, walked in without stopping to look at the noose, five feet from the door sill. A guard passed a strap around his legs above the knees and in almost simultaneous motion other guards slipped a black satin cap over his head and the noose, drawing the latter taut. A signal was given, a foot pressed the plunger, noiselessly the slack of the rope was taken up and second jerk carried Chapman straight upwards several feet.

After a very brief interval the body was lowered so that the feet were a few inches from the floor. The prison physician and medical examiner rose from their seats and opening the coats and shirt of the dead man applied their stethoscopes. When Chapman had been officially pronounced dead the chamber door opened again, a man wheeled in an undertaker's basket and the body was placed in it and removed to the room which Chapman had left in life a few minutes before.

The witnesses left their chairs, formed again in a column and walked back to their starting points.

SWEARS HE WAS PAID TO TESTIFY

Fred White's Evidence Damaging to Defendants in Arson Case

Winston-Salem, April 2.—Trial of Max Samet and his two sons, charged with burning their store and stock of goods at King, to obtain insurance on the property, began in Stokes Superior Court Tuesday, will not be concluded before late Saturday. Many witnesses have been examined for the State and when court adjourned this evening taking of evidence for the defendants, which consisted largely of testimony of character witnesses, had not been finished.

Evidence given by Fred White was perhaps the most damaging of any presented against the defendants. He testified that F. N. Jones came to him in King and asked him to go to Mount Airy and sign a statement declaring that he saw some men come from the Samet store shortly before the fire and that they were tall and wore light colored suits. White stated that he was paid \$25 by F. N. Jones and Morris Samet to sign this statement and was promised \$500 more if the Samets were acquitted.

Check Offered As Evidence.

White stated that he had received a check for \$25 and the check was offered as evidence. The statement to the effect that he saw the men come from behind the store was sworn to in a lawyer's office in Mount Airy in the presence of Morris Samet and F. N. Jones.

The Samets carried on their building and stock of goods the following insurance: \$10,000 on stock of goods, sold to them by H. R. McPherson, at Walnut Cove; \$2,500 on the building sold to them by H. R. McPherson, of Walnut Cove; \$10,000 sold to them by an insurance firm of Mount Airy; \$10,000 sold to them by an insurance firm of High Point. There was also a concurrent provision in all policies together of increases in the amount \$25,000 more than the total of all policies. The stock of goods was estimated to have been worth about \$20,000.

During the examination of witnesses for the prosecution, Deputy Sheriff Hall was questioned regarding the burning of a fiery cross in or near Danbury last October. He denied having any connection with the cross burning. Hearing of the case was continued at the last term of court upon the plea of counsel for defendants and the contention that sentiment in and around King ran high against the Jews.

CONSTABLE BELL DIES OF WOUNDS

Officer Shot by Moonshiners Never Regain Consciousness

Wilmington, March 31.—J. W. Bell, former constable and volunteer prohibition officer, who was found yesterday in a swamp three miles east of the city with his eyes shot out, and otherwise wounded, died today at 1 o'clock at the Walker Memorial hospital, without ever regaining consciousness.

From the time he was found by Sheriff George C. Jackson and a corps of deputies it was thought that his case was hopeless. As they picked him up Sheriff Jackson told Bell that they had come to him as soon as they could. A flicker of consciousness and recognition on Bell's part seemed to greet the message. From this time on until he died today, Bell was totally unconscious.

While it is known of course that Bell came to his death at the hands of moonshiners for whom he was searching, it is hardly possible that any trace will ever be discovered which will lead to the identity of his slayer, or slayers. The fact that he was making a search by himself and that his assailants waylaid and killed him while alone, places officers in a position where they have not the least clue upon which to work.

Bell's body was prepared for burial and was carried to his late home this afternoon in the southern section of the city, where the funeral will be held tomorrow. A coroner's jury will make an investigation.

Bell is the third white man to be killed by moonshiners in this section in the past 18 months. Officers Leon George and Sam Lilly having been slain by the two Stewarts in Brunswick county, for which crime the Stewarts were electrocuted.

PATTERSON IS OUSTED FROM TOBACCO CO-OPS

Resignation as General Manager Has Been Accepted.

Raleigh, N. C., April 3.—The board of directors of the Tri-State Tobacco Growers Cooperative Marketing Association, today accepted the resignation of its general manager, Richard R. Patterson, who was the object of bitter attacks in the five-day legal battle over the life of the association, which came to a close here yesterday. The resignation becomes effective immediately.

In Mr. Patterson's place the board appointed, temporarily, three directors, George A. Norwood, of North Carolina, president of the association; Bright Williamson, of South Carolina, its vice president, and E. G. Bagley, a Virginia director.

WATKINS ALSO OUT.

Patterson and T. C. Watkins, another former official of the association, who resigned some time ago, are charged with having made more than \$800,000 personal profits out of re-drying association tobacco. This charge was one of the basis on which the receivership suit denied yesterday by Federal Judge I. M. Meekins, was brought. In the course of the trial Aaron Sapiro and W. T. Joyner, counsel for the association, disclosed that they have instituted legal proceedings to seek recovery of this money on behalf of the organization.

There had been some suggestion of retaining Mr. Patterson as manager of the association's sales and leaf departments, but today's action by the board of directors entirely severs his connection with the tobacco association, it was announced at the close of the meeting of the board.

The board today also unanimously passed a resolution empowering the temporary management to "make any other changes it may deem advisable among other employes of this association" and "generally to carry on the work of this association, subject to the instructions of the board."

"The Tobacco Grower's Cooperative Association can now go ahead and make progress," declared Messrs. Sapiro and Joyner, the organization's general and associate counsel, at the board meeting. They said they would not desire a word of Judge Meekins' order, which denied the receivership petitioned, but held the matter open, changed.

OPPOSITION PARALYZED.

"We have paralyzed this series of receivership actions against the association," they told the board, "by having it retained in the jurisdiction of the federal court. We are satisfied to have it suggested that we be confined to our usual business. As the decree now stands it has everything in it that we need to protect ourselves; and there are no harmful strings tied to the decision. The association is absolutely at liberty to handle its own affairs, in its own way under its own leadership."

Judge Lloyd Horton, of counsel for the plaintiffs, is likewise satisfied with the ruling, which he characterized as thoroughly satisfactory.

Acceptance of the resignation of Mr. Patterson today is considered significant in view of Judge Meekins' questions to Sapiro in court with reference to today's meeting of the board of directors and its authority to discharge employes, if it should see fit.

WAR ROMANCE SHATTERED

Capt. Roger Williams, Jr., Freed From Titled French Wife

Boston, March 30th.—Capt. Roger Williams Jr., who received a divorce to-day in Lexington, Ky., from Mrs. Williams on abandonment charges is the son of the late Gen. Roger D. Williams, U. S. A., and a descendant of the Roger Williams who founded the colony of Rhode Island. His marriage on April 23, 1919, in Paris to the daughter of the Count Luder de la Forest Divonne was the outcome of a war romance.

On Jan. 8, 1920, Mrs. Williams went to France ostensibly to visit her parents. Capt. Williams followed her there in 1923, but his efforts to induce her to return to the United States were unsuccessful.

Capt. Williams won distinction in France as commander of the regimental batteries of the Fifth Division. He is attached to the 18th United States Infantry, which mans the Boston Harbor forts.

ANNUAL WHITE HOUSE EGG ROLLING ENJOYED

Nearly 50,000 Attend Easter Event on Grounds of President's Home

Washington, April 5.—Frolicking children took possession of the grounds of the White House today and under the smiling faces of President and Mrs. Coolidge made merry with their egg-rolling and other Easter games as has been their custom annually at the executive mansion for 50 years.

Thousands were present for the fun-making, the only condition of admission being that a child should be not more than 10 years of age and should be in care of an adult. In the late afternoon the grounds were thrown open to the general public for a closing concert by the marine band.

Mrs. Coolidge was early a center of attraction for the children, walking among them about the grounds in the forenoon. The President, who had glanced frequently out of his office windows during the morning, appeared on the south portico of the executive mansion in the early afternoon with Mrs. Coolidge and their son John, and waved a greeting to the youthful crowd, which answered with a shout but vigorous cheer.

On her tour of the grounds, Mrs. Coolidge was accompanied by the two White House collies, Rob Roy and Prudence Prim, and at once was encircled by so many youthful admirers that police came to the assistance of her secret service escort in making a way for her. But she gave every indication of enjoying the situation, laughing and at times embracing the youngsters. Then, at the urging of photographers, she posed while cameras recorded the scene.

Returning to the White House she joined wives of cabinet officers and other friends who were here guests during the day. In the afternoon she sat on the south portico in company with these friends, and members of the cabinet who came to watch the scene.

Figures announced tonight placed the total attendance at 48,105, which exceeds by more than 10,000 the previous record attendance.

Buzzard, Blue Ridge Terror, Shot

Bristol, Va., April 3.—The mountain folk of the Blue Ridge are happy today in the knowledge that the "belled buzzard" is dead.

The bird, which was the object of the superstitious awe of the mountaineers, was shot near Comer, Ga., for years it had flown above the Blue Ridge and brought fear to the hearts of those who heard the doleful tolling of the brass bell around its neck.

There was a superstition that to see the bird once brought bad luck and to see it a second time calamity. Only one man ever had the temerity to pursue it. An aviator, mapping out this territory a year ago, met the bird and chased it for miles. Then he changed his course and the buzzard had since flown on unmolested until a Georgia cracker took a pot shot and killed it.

The bird was found to have attached to its neck a cowbell with the date 1882 inscribed on it. The killer has refused several offers for the bell, which is sought by curio dealers.

A Boy Who Knew How

An American boy nineteen years of age once found himself in London, where he was under the necessity of earning his bread. He went straight to a printing office and inquired whether help was needed.

"Where are you from?" inquired the foreman.

"America," was the answer.

"Ah," said the foreman, "from America. Can you set type?"

The young man stepped to one of the cases, and in a brief space set up this passage from the first chapter of John: "Nathaniel said unto him, can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip said unto him, come and see."

It was done so quickly, so accurately, and administered a delicate reproof so appropriate and powerful, that it at once gave him influence and standing with all the office. He worked diligently at his trade, refused to drink beer or any kind of strong drink, saved his money, returned to America, became a printer, publisher, author, postmaster general, member of Congress, signer of the Declaration of Independence, ambassador to royal courts, and finally died in Philadelphia at the age of eighty-four. There are more than one hundred and fifty counties, towns and villages in America named after this same printer boy—Benjamin Franklin.

SHARON FOLKS TO ERECT MONUMENT TO CAMERON

Neighbors and Friends to Keep Green Grave of State's Most Illustrious Fraternity Man.

Kinston, March 31.—Masons of the state and section will erect a memorial at the grave of John Erasmus Cameron in the little Methodist churchyard at Sharon, it was reported today. It will be a plain shaft in keeping with the life and habits of the country's most honored fraternity man, but the inscription will be voluminous if it is to relate all that Cameron was to Freemasonry, past grand high priest, past grand commander of Templars, past illustrious master, past potentate of the Shrine, 32nd degree Mason, chairman of custodians, grand master, etc.

Sharon folk will keep the grave green, they say. Cameron was the most distinguished resident of that community, rather remotely located. There is no paved road leading to the heart of the district, though Cameron was for years a state highway commission member whose influence is attested by the network of hard-surfaced highways throughout this part of North Carolina. The produce of Cameron's own plantation was hauled to market over an indifferent dirt road.

To most Sharon folk the man who was laid to rest in the country graveyard yesterday afternoon was just "John Cameron," a neighbor with a jolly face given to laughing, but to the outside world he was one of the outstanding figures in a universal fraternal order. The members of the grand lodge assembling there gave the community a glimpse of more concentrated dignity than it had ever seen before, while all of Sharon's gardens and roadsides could not have supplied the flowers heaped upon the mound that covered "Farmer John."

Should Plant More Soybeans This Year

Raleigh, April 5.—There are four excellent reasons why a larger acreage should be planted to soybeans this year, states E. C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College.

The first of these reasons is that soybean seed are lower in price than in several years. Mr. Blair states good seed are obtainable at about half the cost last year and this in itself should be a good argument for growing more legumes in the State this summer.

The second reason is that there is a need for more legume hay, especially in the piedmont and western parts of the State. The severe drought in 1925 killed nearly all the clover sown last spring and soybeans may be planted this spring to make up for the scarcity of clover hay.

The third reason given by Mr. Blair is the possibility of a big crop in 1926. Indications are that a bumper crop will be grown all over the South. The severe winter has probably killed a large number of the hibernating boll weevils and this with a large acreage planted will cause a heavy production of cotton resulting in a low price. The wise cotton farmer will therefore arrange to have a good supply of feed to carry his livestock next winter. Soybeans make excellent hay for the purpose.

The fourth and final reason is based on the probability that the Cooperative Tobacco Association will not function this fall as in the past. If this be true, states Mr. Blair, a low price for tobacco will prevail in North Carolina next fall which will show the thinking planter that he needs to prepare now for winter feed. It would also be wise to reduce the tobacco acreage and put more land to soybeans.

Rev. J. H. Carter Called To Taylorsville Church

Wilkes Journal.

A delegation from the Taylorsville Presbyterian church attended the special Palm Sunday services at the Wilkesboro Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon and presented the pastor, Rev. J. H. Carter, with a formal call to the pastorate of the Taylorsville Presbyterian church. Mr. Carter had not yet indicated whether he will accept the call or not.

If he accepted the call to Taylorsville he would give up his work at Elkin and Yadkinville and would move from Elkin to the Alexander town, but it would not affect his work as pastor of the Wilkesboro church as he would continue to keep his Sunday afternoon appointments there.

SALE OF SOLDIERS BARED IN RECORDS

Britain Paid Former German Royal Houses \$3,750,000 for 296,166 Men

Berlin, April 8.—Investigation into the manner in which some of the fortunes of Germany's former royal houses were acquired, in connection with the question of indemnification by the Republic, has disclosed that Germany princelings up to the nineteenth century had "sold" 296,166 of their subjects for \$3,750,000 to England for army service against the American colonies, the French and other enemies.

Duke Karl Wilhelm Ferdinand of Braunschweig sent 4,300 men to England for \$38 a head, it is disclosed, with an additional indemnity of \$22 a head for each man killed in action, three wounded men to be counted as one dead one.

Landgrave Frederick II of Hesse "sold" 12,000 Hessians at \$75 a head, with an annual "rental" fee of \$500,000.

There has been produced a letter from the Landgrave of Hessen-Cassel to Baron Hohendorf, his commanding officer in the American colonies, in which the writer commended the Baron "for seeing to it that 1,950 of the Landgrave's peons in the Battle of Trenton only 300 escaped alive."

"Be sure to send an itemized statement of the losses to London," the letter continues, "as the English minister wants to pay me for only 1,455 killed. I am entirely dissatisfied with Major Mindorf who, according to despatches, succeeded in saving his battalion of Hessians."

Child's Hand Accidentally Cut in Two

Mount Airy, R. 1, Apr. 6.—Jina Marie the 18 day old child of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Gunnell died March 28, and was tenderly laid to rest the following day at Oak Grove in the family plot.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. C. Haymore. The family wishes to publicly thank their dear neighbors and friends for the kindness shown them during the sickness and death of their baby.

The little four-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Simmons happened to a very bad accident a few days ago. While splitting a block reached under to hold it or to move it and was struck on his hand with the axe, which resulted in losing three fingers. He was carried at once to Martin Memorial where it was found only the skin holding the hand together, so they removed the three fingers and over half of his hand. He seems to be getting along nicely.

Two students from Hollow Springs school were awarded prizes at Westfield April 1, and are entitled to speak in the final commencement at Dobson. They were, second grade Maude Simmons, fifth grade, Gaihel Barker.

W. B. Blair, principal of Hollow Springs school the past term with Miss Jones and Mrs. Beasley assistants completed one of the most successful terms we have had. They made a splendid average.

Misses Vilena and Emma McGee and Marjorie Haymore spent Easter with home folks, returning to Mountain Park Tuesday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Shinsult last week a boy.

Mr. John Simmons returned recently from Jacksonville, Fla., where he spent the winter.

Sunday school organized at Hollow Springs Sunday with good attendance.

Miss Kelly to Broadcast State's Progress

Miss Elizabeth Kelly, of Raleigh, has been invited to tell of North Carolina's progress from one of the most backward states in educational and agricultural progress to a leading place in the nation within the past generation, as guest speaker W. L. E. the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation station, Chicago, she will give a series of talks for one week beginning April 11.

Miss Kelly is well known throughout the state having come up from her mountain cabin home through high school and college to the position of teacher, school organizer and supervisor of schools, president of the N. C. Education association and is now educational agent for the Tobacco Growers Cooperative association.

Greatness Analyzed.

The true greatness of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of individuals.—Sumner.