

The Roanoke Rapids Herald

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ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., JUNE 10, 1921

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M SHARPE AND BURLESON DRAW HEAVY SENTENCES

Hidden Climax in Most Sensational Halifax County Criminal Case for Years Comes With Submission of Accused to Charge of Kidnapping - Jim Sharpe Gets 15 Years, Alonzo Burleson 10 Years, Mitchell Sharpe 12 Months

BURLESON BREAKS DOWN IN COURT

ROANOKE RAPIDS PERSONAL AND LOCAL ITEMS

Miss Eunice Baker has left for home in Capron, Va.

Miss Mary Wilson, of Warren, spent the week-end here visiting Miss Cammie Vaughan.

Mr. R. F. Pope left this week for Portsmouth to visit his mother.

Mr. Gaines Thomas spent several days here this week visiting brother, Mr. H. P. Thomas.

Miss Julia B. Harry spent the week-end in Greensboro.

Misses Nell Jones, Bessie Edgely and Minnie Daughtry returned home from Greensboro.

Misses Ethel and Helen Harrison, of Brinkleyville, spent the week-end here with their brother, J. H. Harrison.

Misses Ella Grant and Eugenia Rae, of Littleton, visited in the home of Mrs. W. S. Hancock's week.

Miss Mary Ervin left last week for her home in Darlington, S. C. Mr. and Mrs. Outland and daughter have returned to Suffolk.

Miss Mary Coble left this week for Guilford College.

Miss Catherine Campbell has returned to her home in Mississippi.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Akers are visiting relatives in Wilson.

Master Charles Stainback has returned to his home after spending several months in school. He was accompanied by Miss Laura L. Arbough, principal of the school.

Mrs. E. C. Few and son, of Asheville, N. C., are visiting the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Weeks.

Mr. Ned Manning is visiting sister, Mrs. C. A. Wyche.

Mr. K. C. Towse spent a few days in Durham this week.

Miss Florine Lewter has returned to her home in Durham.

Miss Millie Pearson left this week for her home in Bailey.

Mrs. J. Cecil Crank, has returned from a visit to relatives in Greensboro.

Miss Lois Wooten left Monday for her home in Chadbourne.

Miss Annie Laurie Patterson left this week for her home in Patterson Springs.

Miss Edna Lattimore left Saturday for her home in Shelby.

Mrs. Stadem and children, of Winston, are visiting in home of Mrs. B. Marks.

Mr. Seymore Hech, of Baltimore, spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Marks.

Misses A. A. Hardaway and Catherine Smith and Mr. Seabrook Jones spent Sunday at Tony Creek.

Mr. J. M. Huggins spent a few days in Lexington.

Miss Glenn Ross, of Sanford, spent several days here with her sister, Miss Hattie Ross, this week.

Miss Addie Lipscombe, of Durham, spent the week-end here with her friends.

Revs. E. M. Snipes, Wm. Towse and L. B. Jones attended the graduation exercises of Trinity College, Durham, this week.

Mr. Wm. Towse, Jr., graduated here this year.

A special quartet will be rendered at the First Methodist church at the evening service Sunday by Mrs. V. F. Harrison, Miss Mary Nicholson and Messrs. M. Gibbs, of Littleton and Mr. L. Price, of this City.

Mrs. Mattie L. Reynolds

Mrs. Mattie L. Reynolds, of Patterson Town, died last Thursday after a brief illness. She leaves three young children and her husband, Mr. H. G. Reynolds. She had lived in Patterson village about a year and during this time had endeared herself to many of her neighbors. The funeral was held by her pastor, Rev. A. G. Carter, of the Baptist Church Saturday afternoon and interment took place in Cedarwood cemetery.

WORK ON HARD SURFACED ROAD TO BEGIN IN JULY

Commissioner W. A. Hart States it Will be Built Through Roanoke Rapids to River Bridge. Exact Type Not Yet Decided.

RE LOCATION ALREADY COMPLETED

The State Highway Commission is now advertising for bids on the construction of an eighteen foot hard surfaced road from here to Weldon. Estimates are called for on several different types of surfaces and a definite decision as to the type of the construction has not yet been reached by the Highway Commission.

Mr. W. A. Hart, Highway Commissioner for this Road District, came through Roanoke Rapids Monday morning and conferred with Messrs. J. T. Chase, of the County Highway Commission, W. L. Long, and others in regard to the proposed road, and announced that it would be built through the corporate limits of the town of Roanoke Rapids to the foot of the bridge across the Roanoke river.

The money for the road is to be advanced to the State by the County Highway Commission, to be repaid at a later date, and the funds will be raised by the sale of the remaining \$250,000.00 of road bonds voted by the county some time ago. The proper resolutions authorizing construction work have passed both by State and County Highway Commission and there is every prospect that actual construction work will begin in July.

The road has already been relocated, with the dangerous curves at Chocoyotte creek crossing near Weldon eliminated. The new road will follow the old quite closely until Bass' crossing. From there it will continue on the right of the Seaboard Air Line tracks, eliminating the crossing there, and enter Weldon through the street leading by the Post Office.

Much Clothing Given for Armenians

The community's response to the appeal for clothing for destitute Armenians and Syrians was very gratifying. Two large boxes and a large bag of clothing were shipped from Roanoke Rapids and we understand that the clothing donated at Rosemary exceeded the very gratifying amount given at Roanoke Rapids.

The Ministerial Union wished to thank all of those who aided in this work.

Mrs. Mattie Hasty

Mrs. Mattie Hasty, of Rosemary died Sunday afternoon at five o'clock. She leaves a devoted husband, Mr. Scott Hasty, and a son and daughter, twins, who were born Sunday. She has been a resident of Rosemary for several years and by her genial disposition and lovely traits of character had won many friends. Accompanied by several friends and relatives the body was carried to her old home at Swan Quarter Monday morning and interment was made there Wednesday.

was a willing passenger all the way to South Boston, Va., and he knew nothing or saw nothing to indicate that her abduction was against her will.

Mrs. Coley, of Roanoke Rapids, whose daughter was to have married Jim Sharpe, was put on the stand by the defense. She testified that Miss Gillespie informed her early Sunday afternoon that her brother had slipped her and that she "was going to leave this town if she had to walk". It was brought out by the State that when the search for the missing girls first began and Mitchell Sharpe was questioned by Miss Gillespie's brother at Mrs. Coley's home as to the whereabouts of the two girls, he was cautioned by her not "to talk too much".

The sole character witness for any of the accused was introduced in behalf of Alonzo Burleson, who broke down completely during the speech of counsel in his behalf and wept profusely. Burleson has a wife and five small children, whom he has supported up to the time of his getting into this trouble, and sympathy for them was feelingly expressed by Judge Cranmer when passing sentence.

WITH THE CHURCHES

METHODIST CHURCH Rev. L. B. Jones, Pastor

Sunday school at 9:45 A. M. Sermon at 11 A. M. Subject: Rainbow and Clouds.

At 8 P. M. illustrated lecture sermon, subject, The Shadow of the Cross.

There will be special music at both services. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

All Saints' Church (Episcopal) Rev. Lewis N. Taylor, Rector

Mr. Leonardo Andrea, Lay Assistant

WHAT IS IT?

A State of Mind?

No.

A System of Teaching?

No.

A Beautiful Theory?

No.

A Way of Life?

Yes.

That's What the Christian Gospel Is.

Take it and Try it.

IT WORKS.

All Saints' Church invites you next Sunday.

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday after Trinity. Service 7:30 A. M. Holy Communion. 9:45 Church School, T. W. Mullen, Supt. Morning service at 11. Night service at 8.

A most cordial welcome is extended to you.

An Appreciation

The school year has come to a close in Roanoke Rapids, and once more the teachers who have formed a part of the communities of Roanoke Rapids and Rosemary for nine months are saying goodbye to their pupils and friends, co-laborers. Some of us expect to return to continue our work when the doors of the schools open again; some of us will go out in September into new fields of endeavor. To all of us, however, comes a sense of gratitude. We are grateful to you who are citizens of the community here for what you have done for your teachers this year, for what you have meant to them as they have gone about their daily work and play among you. You have made us feel that your town was our town, your homes our homes; you have made us see that our comfort and happiness were matters of real concern to you; you have given us, in our work, both in the school room and in the outside community, your sincere interest and co-operation. There is real gratitude in our hearts for these things. Those of us who go away to return to you in the Fall, look ahead to another happy year in which we hope to know and love even better the community we consider our own. Those of us who go away into new places, take with us happy memories of the year with you, and a renewed strength and vigor from our contact with you. We wish for you a happy summer!

One of your teachers.

High School Honor Roll

Eighth Grade - Harvey Speight, Fred Vaughan, Myrtle Anderson, Mattie Askew, Mabel Braswell, Grace Brown, Marjorie Cannon, Nellie Crutfield, Verna Freeman.

Ninth Grade - Lawrence Spencer, Alma Vaughan, Mildred Taylor, Hazel Cobb, Louise Jackson, Mamie Sheffield, Emma Stancell.

Tenth Grade - Josephine Hege, Rosa Pearson, Eva Sadler, Norfleet Vick, Thelma Mills.

Eleventh Grade - Mary Norfleet Grizzard, William Jackson, Fannie Marks, Ruth Mason, Mabel Moore, Robert Taylor, Robert Daughtry, Paul Harris.

Senior Class Entertained

The members of the senior class of the Roanoke Rapids High School were entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Hancock by Mrs. W. S. Hancock and Miss Beadie Clark on last Tuesday night from 10 to 12 o'clock.

The house was beautifully decorated in red and white sweet peas. Favors consisting of small red and white books with the prophecies of the individual members of the class illustrated were presented to the guests. The color scheme throughout consisted of the class colors—red and white.

Refreshments of red and white block cream with white cakes decorated with red roses in the center were served and music and singing fully enjoyed by all present.

ELEVEN GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Graduating Exercises Beginning Last Week Close Tuesday Night With Address of Dr. C. E. Brewer, President of Meredith College.

PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The High School commencement began last Thursday night, June 2, with a concert by the Girls' and Boys' Glee Clubs. This work for the year has been under the supervision of Miss Lucy Crisp. The school authorities feel quite gratified at the results of the work.

On Friday afternoon the annual athletic contest for the association cup, presented by Mr. C. A. Wyche, took place. First, second, and third prizes were given for each entry. The cup was won by the Freshman class who made 37 points, the Sophomore class being a close competitor with 35 points.

On Sunday, June 5, the Rev. W. W. Way delivered the Baccalaureate sermon to the graduating class at the Methodist Church. The theme of his sermon was "Liberty has Limits." His development of this theme was very inspiring.

On Monday afternoon the class exercises of the senior class took place. Marion Saunders, president of the class, opened the exercises with a few words of greeting to the parents and friends. This was followed by the class song, the words of which had been written by Sallie Saunders and the music composed by Miss Crisp. Class statistics were given by Robert Taylor; the class poem by Robert Daughtry; the class prophecy by Fannie Marks; and the Last Will and Testament by Birdie Williams. In the absence of the class historian, Mabel Moore, William Jackson, the secretary and treasurer of the class, read the history. The exercises closed with the singing of the farewell song.

Monday night the senior class under the direction of Miss Marjorie Mendenhall gave the play, "A Scrap of Paper."

On Tuesday night the graduation exercises took place. Dr. C. E. Brewer, President of Meredith College, delivered the annual address. He spoke of the changing conception of education and warned against harmful tendencies.

Diplomas were presented to the following pupils: Robert Daughtry, Mary Norfleet Grizzard, Paul Harris, William Jackson, Fannie Marks, Ruth Mason, Mabel Moore, Marion Saunders, Sally Saunders, Robert Taylor and Birdie Williams.

The prize winners for the year were also announced at this time. Robert Taylor won the prize of \$25 given by Mrs. S. F. Patterson for the best attendance record during the four years of high school. The \$10 prize given by Mrs. Patterson for the best senior essay was won by Marion Saunders, who chose for the title of his essay the late Capt. Thomas Williams Mason.

The girls' scholarship of \$100 at the North Carolina College for Women, given by the Woman's Club was awarded to Mabel Moore.

The three \$100 scholarships for boys with the best high school record, one given by Mr. C. A. Wyche, and two by the University Alumni of this community, were won by William Jackson, Marion Saunders, and Robert Taylor.

HUTTLESTON--HELMS

A very quiet wedding of much local interest was solemnized in the Methodist parsonage in Emporia Wednesday night at 9 o'clock when Miss Nora Helms, of this town became the wife of Mr. J. H. Huttleston, of Weldon.

The young couple were attended only by several witnesses who were from Emporia.

Mrs. Huttleston is well known here, having been employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company as their local agent. She has made many friends during her stay here through her attractive personality and attentive business traits.

Mr. Huttleston is a young man of many sterling qualities, is well known in Weldon and in this town. For some time he has been engaged in the insurance business in this community.

The young couple will be at home to their friends in Weldon.

HEAVIEST DOCKET IN YEARS FOR JUNE CRIMINAL COURT

Nearly Eighty Cases on Calendar - Violations of Prohibition Law Predominate - Judge Cranmer Severely Scores Blind Tigers and Pistol Toters in Grand Jury Charge

BOOT-LEGGERS GET ROAD SENTENCES

Facing the largest criminal docket in years, the June term of Halifax County Superior Court convened Monday morning, with Judge Cranmer presiding. His address to the Grand Jury was one of the most thoughtful and impressive ever delivered at Halifax. Judge Cranmer's dictation while calm and dispassionate is never the less direct and incisive. His conception of the government of North Carolina, as being founded upon and having as a cornerstone the "acknowledgement of the sovereignty of Almighty God" and his development of the fundamentals of government were very impressive. But for the good government which we now enjoy, he told the Grand Jury, "none of you would have been willing to have left your home this morning. You could not be certain that the lives of your loved ones or the property which you have amassed would have been safe while you are here."

He brought before the Grand Jury only three classes of law breaking: violations of the prohibition law, pistol toting, and selling of cigarettes to boys under seventeen years of age. "A man who is not a prohibitionist is not a good citizen," he told the Grand Jury. "Two classes of people walk about with a gatling in their pockets; fools and cowards" closed his vigorous denunciation of the pistol toter. During his charge he referred to the "splendid school building" he had seen on last Sunday afternoon and identified the building as the Roanoke Rapids Junior-Senior High School with the statement that standing upon the steps of the new building he could see two other great school buildings erected upon the same street. He concluded his charge with an expression of pleasure at being again in Halifax county and a tribute to Halifax county citizenry.

The principal cases disposed of up to three o'clock Thursday afternoon were as follows: Lennie Williams, larceny, twelve months upon the county roads.

J. H. Harris, larceny, twelve months upon the county roads.

Will Garret, larceny, twelve months upon the county roads.

Jessie Sledge, illicit distilling, twelve months upon the county roads.

Walter Taylor, selling whiskey, six months upon the county roads.

Clarence Whitaker, selling whiskey, four months upon the county roads.

Robert Moore, of Rosemary, carrying concealed weapons and gambling, six months upon the county roads.

R. M. Lawrence, selling whiskey, eighteen months upon the county roads. This case came from Roanoke Rapids and was worked up by Policeman R. H. Jackson.

Claude Williams, carrying concealed weapons and selling a pistol, first twelve and later increased to eighteen months upon the county roads. Williams has every appearance of being a "bad negro" in the worst sense of the term. His truculent and enraged deportment in the Courtroom gained an additional six months from Judge Cranmer.

Leonard Alston, assault and battery, six months on the county roads.

Will Joyner, illicit distilling, eighteen months, Albert Nethercutt, twelve months, Sam Fenner, Asa and Julius Manly, colored, all for illicit distilling, twelve months each on the county roads. These five were the result of a raid made by the police force of Roanoke Rapids several days ago, in which a still and five hundred gallons of mash were captured.

Sam Lynch, charged with using a car for immoral purposes, was found not guilty by the jury. The evidence against him was so flimsy and his character was proven so high by numerous witnesses that this verdict was a foregone conclusion almost from the beginning of the trial.

Coley Vaughan, charged with using a car for immoral purposes, not pressed by solicitor.

Reno Allsbrook and Lewis Newsom charged with selling whiskey, did not appear for trial

ROSEMARY PERSONAL AND LOCAL ITEMS

Mrs. Chas. E. Finch, of Norfolk, was in Rosemary Wednesday.

Mr. W. W. Barnes, of Richmond, spent Wednesday in town.

Mr. Chas. M. Smith, of the Internal Revenue Department, spent several days in town this week.

Miss Sue Watkins left this week for her home in Middleburg.

Mr. Wm. F. Horner, of Henderson, was here Monday and Tuesday.

Miss Elizabeth Davis has returned to her home in Southport.

Mr. W. Rea Parker, of Raleigh, was in town Tuesday.

Mrs. J. P. Hewitt and Miss Jean Hewitt left yesterday morning for a visit to Washington, D. C.

Mr. H. B. Hart, of Rocky Mount, was a visitor in Rosemary Tuesday.

Mrs. Virginia Dromgoole, of Brunswick County, Va., is spending the week in Rosemary.

Mr. R. T. Jenkins, of Petersburg, was here Tuesday.

Rev. Chas. M. Lance is attending the Summer Conference at Trinity College, Durham.

Mr. J. A. Taylor, of Oxford, was in Rosemary Monday.

Miss Elise Bradley, of Northampton county, was a visitor in town this week.

Mr. J. L. Patterson, of Richmond, was a visitor in town this week.

Mrs. Wm. C. Williams is spending the week in Norfolk.

Mr. W. M. Smith, of Norfolk, spent the week end here.

Mrs. Berta Murry, of Stony Point, was in town Monday.

Mr. L. R. Allsbrook, of Norfolk, spent Monday here.

Mr. A. L. McCall, of Fredericksburg, was in Rosemary Monday.

Mr. Leonard Andrea, of South Carolina, who was associated in the work of All Saints' (Episcopal) Church here last summer arrived this week and will spend two months here giving most of his time to work among the boys.

Mr. E. E. Marion, of Norfolk, spent Monday in town.

and their bonds of \$1,000.00 each were forfeited.

Harrison Faulcon, assault and battery, fined \$10.00 and costs.

Buddie Johnson, larceny, six months in jail - to be hired out.

Tom C. Richardson, secret assault, prayer for judgment continued upon payment of costs.

Hilliard Peters, J. B. Jones, Randal Johnson, and J. E. Taylor, gambling, prayer continued upon payment of costs.

Jesse Huffstickler, slapping wife, prayer continued upon payment of costs.

Lee Hockaday, assault and battery, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

Daniel Cotton, assault and battery, prayer continued upon payment of costs.

Charles Mason, carrying concealed weapons, fined \$50.00 and costs.

Harlow H. Gray, larceny and receiving, six months in jail - to be hired out if the navy does not want him.

Luke Whitaker, carrying concealed weapons, fined \$50.00 and costs.

Tom Daniel, selling whiskey, found guilty - will be sentenced later.

W. J. Ham, indecent exposure, judgment continued upon payment of costs.

N. G. Hudgins, J. P. Fowler, C. L. Garner, Jim Mosely, gambling, Hudgins and Mosely did not appear for trial, Fowler and Garner found guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

In cases noted "prayer continued upon payment of costs" the appearance of the defendant at the August and November terms of court to show evidence of good behavior is required.

Other cases will be published in our next week's issue.