



DEATH CARS—This head-on collision claimed the lives of James Puckett, Tabor City, and Walter Myers of Bennettsville, S. C., about two o'clock Saturday afternoon on Highway 9, one mile east of Loris. A young woman passenger, Betty Merrill Simmons, Tabor City, was seriously injured. (Photo by Joe McCormick).

TWO KILLED IN CAR WRECK

Two men were killed instantly and a young woman was seriously injured when two cars crashed head-on Saturday afternoon about two o'clock on Highway 9, one mile east of Loris.

James Puckett, 32, of Tabor City and Walter Myers, 30, of Bennettsville, S. C., died instantly. Betty Simmons, 18, passenger in the Puckett auto, was rushed to Loris Community Hospital suffering from head lacerations and internal injuries.

South Carolina Highway Patrolman C. M. Metts investigated the wreck and stated that water standing three inches deep on the highway after a heavy Saturday rain might have been the biggest factor. It was believed that one auto hit the water and careened out of control.

An unidentified witness said he heard the crash and ran outside his home in time to find a spare tire still falling through the air.

The 1955 Oldsmobile driven by Puckett, and the pickup truck driven by Myers were demolished.

A large crowd viewed the wreckage and automobiles Sunday after they had been towed into automobile lots in Loris.

A small sign "One Was Killed" adorned the smashed front of the pickup truck.

According to Officer Metts, the Myers truck was traveling west toward Loris and the Puckett auto was heading in the direction of the beach when the accident occurred.

Hospital officials reported late last night that the young woman passenger's condition was improved. Reports that she had been unconscious since the wreck were disclaimed by hospital attendants.

Funeral rites were held Monday.

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Reuther Soles, Route 2, Tabor City Has Excellent Crop

Crop Outlook Good; Farmer Expecting \$5,000 On 4 Acres

Better than ever tobacco crops are expected in Columbus County this year and one of the most promising crops belongs to Reuther Soles who lives just outside Tabor City on Route 2.

Mr. Soles, a man who speaks straight from the shoulder, estimates his four acres of tobacco will bring him \$5,000 this year.

According to Mr. Soles, some of the leading tobacco warehousemen have taken a look at his crop and term it "the most outstanding in the county."

Lugs were cropped about two weeks ago on the Soles' farm but the point of the operation with which Mr. Soles is the happiest is the growth of the tobacco stalks. Early last week there was uniformity in every row and only a scattered few were less than six feet high.

Unlike many farmers who switched from Hicks variety of tobacco to new 139, Mr. Soles decided to wait and let this year be the test year.

"If the 139 variety had done all right this year, I'd be making plans to switch next year but until someone proves that Hicks isn't the best for me then I'll keep on using it," remarked the friendly farmer who supplements his tobacco earnings by raising sweet potatoes, corn and other crops.

Superior leaf crops are not everyday happenings but Mr. Soles feels that he has his share of them. In 1953 his four acres brought in excess of \$5,000. Last year the drought hit and successful farmers were taking out far less than ordinary, but Mr. Soles hit a very respectable \$800 per acre average.

Who said his crop would bring \$5,000? The man who should know—Mr. Roscoe Coleman, owner and operator of tobacco warehouses in Tabor City where Mr. Soles sells his crop year after year.

THE ONLY PULITZER PRIZE WINNING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE UNITED STATES

The Tabor City Tribune

"Tabor City - The Town With A City Future"

VOLUME IX, NUMBER 33

TABOR CITY, N. C. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1955

5c PER COPY—\$2.00 PER YEAR

Husband Shot After Threat To Blast Home

A man who threatened to dynamite his home after a family argument was blasted to death with a shotgun by his wife about 10:45 last night.

Jesse Ray, 59-year-old farmer of Route 1, Tabor City, was killed instantly by blasts from a single barrel 12-gauge shotgun that tore away part of his face and stomach.

Columbus County Sheriff J. R. Pridden said today that formal charges against the victim's wife, Mrs. Mamie Ray, are pending a complete investigation. Mrs. Ray has been admitted to Columbus County Hospital for observation.

According to Sheriff Pridden the dead man had been drinking and had threatened earlier in the evening to kill the entire family. Members of the family took the shotgun away from him.

After threatening to dynamite the house he walked out the back door into the yard. His wife told officers that she thought he was going to get the dynamite and fired at him with the shotgun.

Sheriff Pridden estimated the man was fired from about 12 feet away. The blasts ripped through the screen door and into the head of the victim. A second shot entered his stomach.

Tabor City Police Officer Ted Watts said that Mrs. Ray came to the police station last night about nine o'clock and asked him to call the Sheriff to arrest her husband.

Watts was unable to contact the sheriff or any deputies; however, Sheriff Pridden explained this morning that highway patrol forces had asked for the aid of deputies in handling two serious auto wrecks last night that claimed the lives of three persons.

Deputy Coroner Lacy Thompson and Sheriff Pridden investigated the slaying. A coroner's inquest has not been announced.

It marked the third consecutive week that violent death has climaxed marital feuds. In each case the husband has been killed. On Saturday, June 4, a 26-year-old Negro woman, Eloise Deas stabbed her husband to death with an ice pick after an argument in a local colored district.

The second slaying took place June 8 when a local woman, Mrs. Leamon Beck, shot her husband on the old Loris funeral home.

Funeral services will be held for Mr. Ray tomorrow afternoon at four o'clock from Inman Funeral Home.

The Rev. P. C. Gantt, pastor of the Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, and the Rev. F. C. Hutcheson, pastor of the Tabor Presbyterian Church, will conduct the services.

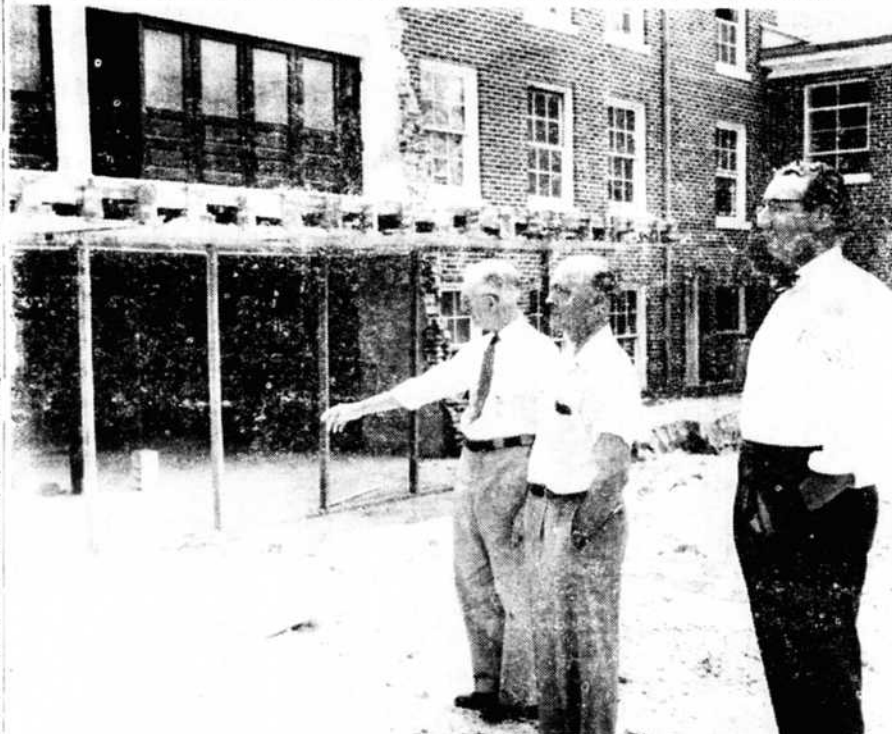
Interment will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, J. C., Route 3, Tabor City and J. D. of Wilmington; four daughters, Mrs. A. O. King Jr. of Tabor City, Mrs. T. E. Strickland of Whiteville, Mrs. J. D. Dallas of Rocky Mount and Mrs. J. B. Purkall of Knoxville, Tenn.; four brothers, Harlie, Route 3, Tabor City, John of Calabash, Major and Odell of Gastonia; four sisters, Mrs. Minnie Stanley and Mrs. Maggie Ward of Wilmington, Mrs. Mae Williams of Nakina, and Mrs. Martha Price of Route 1, Clarendon.

Swim Classes

Swimming classes will begin next Wednesday afternoon at Lake Tabor for youngsters between the ages of five and ten.

CHURCH CONSTRUCTION WORK HOLDS INTEREST



Rev. P. C. Gantt (extreme right), C. G. Westmoreland (center) and Ed Fonvielle watch work on new Mt. Tabor Baptist Church Sanctuary. (staff photo).

\$250,000 CONSTRUCTION JOB

New Sanctuary Is Underway At Mt. Tabor Baptist Church

Work began last week on the new sanctuary for Mt. Tabor Baptist Church and church officials expressed hope that the unit would be completed within four months.

COP DEALT "RABBIT PUNCH"

Police Officer Shoots Negro After Suspect Resists Arrest

Interference with a police officer in the line of duty and resisting arrest almost cost an Andrews, S. C. Negro his life here Friday afternoon.

Ted Watts, local policeman, shot Edward McCullough after McCullough made a remark that was unheard by the officer. When the crowd began to giggle, Watts called the Negro to the patrol car and began to question him.

"What is your name?" "Junior Brown," he replied as he told the officer he lived beside the Negro Baptist Church.

When Watts asked for identification, the Negro told him he didn't have any.

"I'm not going anywhere," stated McCullough when Watts asked him to get into the patrol car to take him to the police station for further questioning.

"Take your hands out of your pockets and get into the car," ordered Watts as he attempted to hold the man by the arm.

When Watts grabbed the Negro's arm, he started pulling his hands out of his pockets. Watts hit him then the Negro delivered a "rabbit punch" to the back of the officer's neck. The Negro continued to scuffle with him.

The Rev. P. C. Gantt, pastor of Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, said that the sanctuary would cost approximately \$250,000 not including the furniture.

Completion of the sanctuary will mark the final phase of the three-unit building program initiated in 1951.

With a seating capacity of 720 the new sanctuary will be one of the largest and most modern in Columbus County. It will replace one which had seating capacity of about 400.

During the construction period all Sunday services will be held in the adult assembly room located in the basement of the church.

Approximately \$30,000 has been raised by members of the building committee of which C. G. Westmoreland is chairman. Others serving on this committee are F. G. Kelly, Jack McGowan, C. C. Lezette, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rogers, Mrs. B. L. Nesmith, Jr., Mrs. B. A. Garrell, E. W. Fonvielle, Ben Nesmith III, and L. S. Parham.

Seven persons are serving on the finance committee for the church, they are E. W. Fonvielle, chairman, Mrs. B. A. Garrell, L. S. Parham, Robert Soles, Mrs. L. W. Bullard, Garland Fowler and Jimmy Dicus.

A committee to select the pews for the new sanctuary is composed of Mrs. W. W. Woody, Mrs. L. W. Bullard, Mrs. C. H. Pinner, Mrs. Ben Nesmith, Jr., Mrs. D. J. Hughes and Mrs. B. A. Garrell.

"We hope to be using the new sanctuary by October 1," said the Rev. Gantt.

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'White Way' Lights Approved By Board

A new "white way" lighting system will replace the outdated "bare bulb" lighting method now used in Tabor City.

Members of the Town Board met Friday night and approved the project.

Hope was expressed that the lights would be installed before the opening of tobacco season in August.

Mr. Bob Leamon, supervisor of Carolina Power and Light Company, told officials earlier that the "white way" lights for Tabor City would be given priority if approved.

Seventy-six new lights would be installed under present plans. Forty-eight would have 10,000 lumens each and 28 would be of the 6,000 lumens size. The 10,000 lumens are equivalent to 500-watt bulbs.

This community is one of the last, its size, to approve the new

Death Rode Two Highways

Death rode two Columbus County highways last night about nine o'clock as accidents in different sections of the county claimed the lives of three persons and hospitalized two.

Highway Patrol Cpl. T. P. Hoffer said this morning that two persons died when an automobile driven by Fred Campbell crashed into the rear of a pulpwood truck about one-half mile north of Chadbourn on Highway 410.

Killed were Oscar L. Williams, 40, of Bladenboro and James Albert Davis, 20-year-old Negro of Boardman. Both were passengers in the Campbell car. The pulpwood truck driver, Addie McNair, was unhurt.

The other highway death occurred between Highway 130 and Nakina when a pickup truck driven by Harry Lee Reeves, 40, of Route 1, Nakina, rammed into the rear of a tractor driven by Lawson Ward of Route 4, Whiteville.

Killed in the smashup was Bobby Ward, 17, of Nakina.

Cpl. Hoffer said Ralph Edward Osborne, 15, was admitted to the hospital with an injured back and internal injuries. Osborne was riding in the rear of the pickup with the Ward boy.

Charges of driving while under the influence and manslaughter have been lodged against Reeves.

Some of the details in the accident involving the pulpwood truck were missing as Cpl. Hoffer explained that two passengers in the death car fled from the scene of the accident. The driver, Fred Campbell, Negro, was identified by a filling station operator who had served the car shortly before the accident.

Campbell fled the scene but reported to the Columbus County Hospital this morning and will be questioned by the investigating officers. The other occupant of the car has not been identified.

Patrolman K. M. Gentry of Chadbourn investigated the Highway 410 accident. Patrolmen J. B. Thomas of Whiteville and Sgt. G. D. Dodson of Lumberton investigated the Nakina fatality.

Yam Festival Will Be Held Oct. 14, 15

Committees for Tabor City's celebrated Yam Festival were named Friday and dates of October 14, 15 set for staging the event that draws around 40,000 people each year.

Representatives of various civic clubs discussed the possibilities of changing the Yam Queen candidates, Joyce Young, Festival theme. It will have more Eugene Grainger was named of a carnival air this year with treasurer of the Yam Festival added entertainment for the two and will handle all finances.

WOMAN ESCAPES INJURY MONDAY

Stella Gore, 40, of Tabor City was unharmed Monday when struck by an auto as she attempted to cross the street in front of Waccamux Bank and Trust Co.

Other committee members are Sam Jackson and Charlie Raper, exhibit chairman; Horace Carter, grounds committee; F. G. Kelly, spt. of building committee; Other Prince, parade chairman; S. T. Rogers, decoration committee; Joe Spivey, carnival; Doris Garrell, public selling; Hospital for observation.

WOMAN'S CLUB INSTALLS OFFICERS



Reading left to right—Mrs. James Garrell, Mrs. W. C. Truitt, Mrs. J. C. Singletary, and Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, Sr. (staff photo)

Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, Sr. was installed as president of the Tabor City Woman's Club Thursday evening with a special program held at the clubhouse.

Mrs. J. C. Singletary was installed to the post of vice president, Mrs. James Garrell, secretary and Mrs. W. C. Truitt, treasurer.

Department heads named by Mrs. Jernigan include Mrs. Erskin Young and Mrs. H. E. Epps, American Home; Mrs. S. T. Rogers and Mrs. Walter Leonard, Public Welfare, and Mrs. J. S. Rogers and Mrs. Mae S. Young, Fine Arts.

Committee chairmen are Mrs. Wade Martin and Mrs. Evelyn Leonard, Ways and Means; Mrs. Richard Gordon and Mrs. Evelyn Hammond, Scrapbook; Mrs. Willard Garrell and Mrs. J. Woody Leon, Hostess and Mrs. Evelyn Leonard, Publicity.

The Thursday evening meeting marked the final general session of the 1954-1955 club year. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16.