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Oxford Ledger



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Hammett B. Hayes Involved in Death Of Durham Mother

Police Find Wounded Clarks-ville Man Beside Brazziere Clad Body of Woman

A Durham mother of five was found shot to death last Friday morning and facing charges in connection with the death is a Clarks-ville, Va., man.

Dead is Mrs. Billie Jean Colom of 206 Parrish Place, Durham, whose braziere clad body was found beside that of Hammett Bratcher (Bradsher) Hayes, 33, on the floor of her locked bedroom at 10:37 a. m.

The gruesome discovery was made by police after Mrs. Colom's frightened children ran to the home of a neighbor, R. L. McDonald of 205 Parrish Place. McDonald notified police, who broke down the door to enter the room.

They found Mrs. Colom's head near the door, her feet stretched near the bed. She was clad in a braziere.

Hayes, fully clad, lay alongside Mrs. Colom. He was taken to the hospital with head wounds.

Mrs. Colom was shot once in the head, twice in the neck and once in the hip.

Clutched in her left hand was a palm-sized .25 calibre pistol.

Her husband, Ernest D. Colom, told police his wife was right-handed.

She had bruises on her left hand and left shoulder.

Colom told investigating police that he had taken Hayes in to try to help him, but later had asked him to move.

According to Capt. Gates of the Durham Police Department, Hayes recently left Durham, moving to Clarksville with his mother. Unable to find work there, he returned to Durham. That was when Colom tried to help him. He reportedly moved from the Colom home three weeks ago.

Three of the Colom children were at home at the time of the shooting. The other two were in school.

Retired Extension Agent Dies at 85

Funeral Held at Middleburg for Mother of Mrs. R. A. Crews of This City

Mrs. Hattie F. Plummer, 85, a native of Granville County and the mother of Mrs. Robert A. Crews of this city, died Thursday at 7:40 p. m. at her home in Middleburg.

The funeral was conducted at 2:30 p. m. Saturday at Middleburg Methodist Church by the pastor, Rev. W. D. Wise. Burial was in Middleburg Cemetery.

Mrs. Plummer was a daughter of the late Joseph Benjamin Parham and Mrs. Emma Jane Hunt. She was first married to Thomas V. Rowland in November, 1892. After his death in 1901, she was married to James Kemp Plummer in 1909.

Surviving in addition to Mrs. Crews is a son, Col. Garland T. Rowland of Middleburg, and a sister, Mrs. Hobgood of Durham. There are five grandchildren.

Mrs. Plummer taught school in Granville and Vance counties after her graduation from Greensboro College in 1888. In 1914, she became Vance County's first home demonstration agent, a position she held until 1945. She was a leader in the Middleburg Methodist Church and the Woman's Society of the church. She was the first woman to have her name inscribed in the Business and Professional Woman's Club Book of Golden Deeds. A member of the UDC and the DAR, she also was an honorary member of Delta Kappa Gamma and a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

L. T. Vaughan Was Virginia Resident

Funeral Rites Were Conducted Dec. 30 at Grassy Creek Baptist Church for Luther Thomas Vaughan, 77, Resident of Mecklenburg County, Va., Whose Death Occurred Dec. 29 at Granville Hospital.

An earlier report of the death erroneously stated that Mr. Vaughan was a resident of Oak Hill township in this county. Burial was at Grassy Creek Church cemetery.

The event was planned by the Music Department of which Mrs. T. H. Yancey is chairman and the American Home Department, of which Mrs. Hardee Averett is chairman. The club, attractively decorated for the occasion with burning candles and table centerpieces, was



AT CLUB PARTY—Betty Vaiden Williams of Raleigh, guest entertainer at the Woman's Club's Men's Night party here Friday is third from left. In the head-table group are Judge and Mrs. John A. Myers, the entertainer and her husband, Dr. Charles Williams, Mrs. Henry B. Jennings, club president, and Mr. Jennings, Mrs. Bob Ray and Mr. Ray.

Betty V. Williams Delights Audience With Her Ballads

Men's Night Program at Club House Friday Evening Delightful Entertainment

With a warmth of personality and a choice of ballads which displayed her unusual talent, Betty Vaiden Williams sang herself into the hearts of Woman's Club members and their guests at the club's first annual Men's Night held Friday at the club house.

Just home from a tour through the countryside of European countries, the artist wife of Dr. Charles Williams of Raleigh, included in her hour-long program selections from the mountains, the coast and the sandhills areas of North Carolina—selections which beautifully portrayed the manner and quality of life in those areas. She concluded with folk songs which she recently obtained in Germany and France.

Miss Williams' mind and heart are in her work and as she strummed her accompaniment on the autoharp, she figuratively brought her audience to the hearthside of a mountain cabin for "Black is the Colour of My True Love's Hair" and then the seaside of Carteret County for a sea-going ballad, "Who's Gonna Shoe My Pretty Little Foot."

From Moore County came her "Mammy Don't Make Any Liqueur Tonight."

Cherokee was the origin of her selection with a Scottish flavor and the program continued with a trio of songs collected at Crossnore and adapted for her program. It began with "I Wonder When I Shall Be Married," "I'm Going to Get Married Next Sunday," and concluded with housekeeper's lament, "Trouble and Dirt."

"Anniniah's Funeral Song" which the late Mrs. Jacques Busbee of Jutgton assisted Miss Williams in collecting. "Were I a Little Bird," and numbers from France and Israel concluded her regular program.

"Little Things Mean a Lot" and "Shoes to Set My Feet a Dancing" were the encore numbers which were received with great appreciation.

Mrs. Henry B. Jennings, club president, presided. The invocation was by Mrs. Herbert Baucum, Jr., and the welcome was by Mrs. Robert Ray. In absence of Mrs. T. H. Yancey, chairman of the club's music department, Mrs. John A. Myers introduced the entertainer.

Mrs. John Perry Hall paid warm tribute to Mrs. Robert Gilliam Lassiter, a former president of the club, for her "superb leadership in the golden years of the club and for her contributions to the beauty and betterment of Oxford."

Guests of the club were Rotary President and Mrs. Clement Yancey, Kiwanis President and Mrs. Frank W. Bullock, Ernest Hill and Junior Woman's Club President Mrs. Hill, Jaycee President and Mrs. Stan Fox, Chamber of Commerce President and Mrs. G. T. Eakes, Lions President C. W. Duggins and Ledger Editor Tom Johnson.

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Woods Fire Checked

Firemen Were Called at 12:30 a. m. Friday to Check a Woods Fire Which Was Spreading in the Underbrush of Goshen Street. A White Man, Percy Williford, Told Officers That He Started a Fire to Warm Himself and That the Blaze Got Out of His Control.

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Slain Bus Driver

Leo Almerico (above), 49, of Cleveland, a Greyhound bus driver, was shot and killed by a berserk gunman when he ordered the unidentified man to leave a Pittsburgh-to-Chicago bus at a depot in Cleveland. An 18-year-old girl, Georgeann Karzke, also was killed. Five other persons were wounded. The pistol wielder himself was slain a short time later by police.



arranged by members of the American Home Department. Hand-painted cards designated the places of the guests and there was a miniature box of candy supplied by Hall's Drug Store at each place.

County Board In Meeting Monday

Commissioners Are to Visit School Buildings in Oxford Unit Jan. 18

Granville County Commissioners, meeting here Monday, heard routine reports, a road petition and made plans for visiting schools of the city and county preparatory to considering a bond issue request presented by the Oxford Board of Graded School Trustees.

The commissioners will accompany members of the Oxford Board of Trustees for a visit to each of the Oxford schools on Friday, Jan. 18. The tour is to begin at the Gredle School at 2 p. m. and swing around town until Oxford High, Mary Potter, Orange Street and Angier B. Duke schools have been visited.

The Granville board also is to visit several units in the county schools, but on another date.

With R. T. Eakes as spokesman, a delegation appeared to seek approval of the board for improvements to the Mountain Creek Road, a four mile drive extending from Highway 98 to the Cornwall Road. The Granville board promised to investigate and do all it could toward getting the requested improvements.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Born to Lt. and Mrs. Ward Lasley of Key West, Fla., a daughter, Rebecca Graham, Jan. 2, Mrs. Lasley is the former Miss Mary Graham, daughter of Clerk of Court A. W. Graham, Jr., and the late Mrs. Mary Webb Graham.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Belos, a daughter, Linda Kay, December 17, 1956, at Stamford Hospital, Stamford, Connecticut. Mrs. Belos is the former Miss Audrey Bigger of Stovall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Bigger of that place.

Born to Rev. and Mrs. Fred V. Ellis of Granite Falls, formerly of Stovall, a daughter, Rebecca Jean, weighing seven pounds, five and a half ounces, Jan. 1, 1957.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Patterson of Reidsville, a son, Carl, Jr., Jan. 4, weighing six pounds and nine ounces. Mr. Patterson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Patterson of this city.

Granville Man Is Facing Charges In Theft of Clothes

Charlie Hobgood Under Arrest by Durham Police Department Since Friday

DURHAM, Jan. 7.—A 32-year-old Granville County man was lodged in Durham jail Saturday night on charges of wholesale theft of clothing from students at Duke University and the University of North Carolina.

The Granville man, Charlie Hobgood, Route 5, was arrested at North and Geer streets Friday in a 1955 model automobile which had been an object of three-day police search.

Police said clothing and other items allegedly stolen from Duke and UNC dormitories since mid-October were found in the car.

Hobgood, a heavy-set dark-haired man who wears glasses, allegedly has admitted theft of the clothing and told officers he has been stealing clothes for the past five years.

Police yesterday began the task of returning the clothing to Duke and UNC students who have reported thefts since October.

Hobgood, unemployed at the present, told officers he farmed last year in Granville County.

A. H. Overton, 62, Buried in Canada

Funeral Rites Were Conducted on Dec. 21 at Tillsonburg, Ont., Canada, for Aaron Hicks Overton, 63, Granville County Native.

Death followed a heart seizure on Dec. 19.

Mr. Overton was a son of the late Reubin and Emma Averette Overton, of Granville County. Born here in 1894, he lived and farmed in this community until 1936 when he settled in Chatham, Ontario, Canada, where he owned and operated a farm.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Jean Parker Overton of Chatham, a son, Sam H. Overton of Newport, Tenn., two brothers, J. C. and J. B. Overton, and two sisters, Mrs. Lora O. Averette and Mrs. Harry W. Daniel, all of Granville County, and two grandsons.

Mrs. Flora O. Mann and Mrs. Dwight Ford, nieces, were unable to obtain plane reservations and therefore were unable to fulfill their desire to attend the funeral, Mrs. Mann explained yesterday.

MANY ACTIVITIES GET JAYCEE SUPPORT HERE

Annual DSA Banquet to Be Held Friday Night at Woman's Club — Summary Reveals Work in Many Fields

The organization's annual ladies night and presentation of distinguished service award Friday night at the Woman's Club will conclude Jaycee Week in Oxford.

DSA Night Chairman F. Royster Critcher has completed arrangements for the dinner at the club, which is to be attended by approximately 90 members and their guests. Marshall Spears, Durham attorney and a national director of Jaycees, will be guest speaker. Mayor Hugh Curran will present the award to the winner, to be announced at the dinner.

Stan Fox is the organization's president. Through his leadership, Jaycees have undertaken a wide variety of community and civic projects during the year, most of which have been successfully concluded.

Some of the highlights of activities and accomplishments of the organization during the past year are shown in a summary report prepared by officers of the Junior Chamber.

Sponsorship of a new club at Franklinton and operation of the Oxford Recreation Park, together with safety undertakings, including operation of a safety lane for three days and presentation of a safety film in the public schools, are

W. W. Mullen Heard At Lions Meeting

Eighteen Visitors from Louisville Club on Hand For Weekly Gathering

The objective of the public welfare program is assistance where emergencies occur beyond the ability of the individual to cope with them, W. W. Mullen, superintendent of public welfare in Granville County, told members of the Lions Club here last Thursday night.

The concept of welfare is assistance, not maintenance, Mullen said as he spoke at the weekly meeting of the club with President C. W. Duggins presiding. He explained that much of the work of his department is through the old age assistance program, the program of aid to dependent children and aid to partially and totally disabled persons.

Counsel, planning and general guidance to families or individual members of families with problems are other activities of the department about which the public hears little, Mullen explained. Acquaintance with the work and with problems of the department are needed by persons who sometimes are critical of public welfare for a lack of knowledge, Mullen stated.

Eighteen members of Louisville Lions Club, headed by their president, brought to Oxford the Jungle Prowler Award, a device to encourage inter-club visiting among the Lions.

Lassiter Funeral Conducted Saturday

Funeral Rites for Mrs. Robert Gilliam Lassiter were conducted at 11 a. m. Saturday at the home on Gilliam Street and interment followed in Elmwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Lassiter passed at 6 p. m. Jan. 2 at Duke Hospital, Durham, after a long period of failing health. The Lassiters maintained homes in Oxford and Miami Beach, Fla., and in recent years, Mrs. Lassiter had spent much of her time in Florida.

The Rev. Harry Thomas, rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, conducted the funeral service. The active pallbearers were Dr. R. L. Noblin, W. M. Hicks, Sam C. Hall, John Perry Hell, E. S. Powell and H. D. Hedrick. Honorary pallbearers were members of the Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Survivors are her husband, R. G. Lassiter, and a sister, Mrs. A. Hamilton Powell of Oxford.

Cupid Has Off Year

Cupid let up a bit on his work in Granville County in 1956. In comparison with his romantic work in 1955, the previous year. Word from Mrs. Flora Mann, register of deeds, and the lady who issues marriage licenses at four dollars a clip, is to the effect that 286 licenses were issued in 1955 and only 207 in 1956, a decrease of 59.

Twenty-six licenses were issued in December, an average of about one a day.

Wilton PTA Is To Meet on Thursday

The Beta Club of Wilton High School is to present the program for the January meeting of the school's Parent-Teacher Association to be held at 7:30 p. m. Thursday. Officers of the PTA urge that members attend the session.

Daniel Inquest At Court House Monday

An inquest was slated at the court house at 7:30 last night in the death of Sam Morton Daniel.

Coroner Grover Saunders said the inquest had been ordered to determine how Morton came to his death beneath a clothes line at his home north of Oxford last November.

State Leads Nation In Mule Population

The Census Bureau reported yesterday that North Carolina leads the nation in mule population.

The Bureau said Tar Heel farmers in 1954 were plowing behind 179,000 mules in a year when, for the first time, tractors outnumbered horses and mules on American farms.

The number of horses and mules had shrunk to 4,100,000 in 1954 or about a sixth of the peak total of 25,200,000 in 1920, the 1954 census showed.

In the same 34-year period the number of tractors rose from 246,000 to 4,100,000.

Texas with 344,000 had the greatest number of horses and colts in 1954. The famed Missouri mule was down to a mere 22,000, as against Missouri's peak of 389,000 in 1920.

REV. RONALD D. HICKS ACCEPTS TENN. WORK

Minister at Enon and Mt. Zion Churches Leaving Field March 1 After Nearly Eight Years in Work

The Rev. Ronald D. Hicks resigned Sunday as pastor of Enon and Mt. Zion Baptist Churches, effective March 1. He is at that time accepting work in a newly organized church five miles from down-town Kingsport, Tenn.

NIXON IN VIENNA ON MISSION



VICE PRESIDENT Richard M. Nixon (right) is greeted by Austrian Foreign Minister Leopold Figl (left) and U.S. Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson on his arrival in Vienna. Nixon came to Austria to explore the possibility of increasing America's contribution to the Hungarian refugee rehabilitation program. He indicated that the U. S. may allow more than 21,000 refugees to enter the country as victims of Red terror in Hungary. (International Radiophoto)

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The resignation disclosed that Mr. Hicks is accepting a ministerial challenge extended by a small band of Baptists who have sought continuously for the past several months to obtain his services.

The Kingsport Church was organized last April with 34 members, and has since that time acquired property on which is situated a large house and in which all church activities are carried on at the present time.

Mr. Hicks' salary now is in excess of \$5,000 with parsonage furnished. His new congregation has no parsonage to offer and his beginning salary will be \$3,600 a year.

"The task for some pastor will be an almost impossible one—both to live on the salary paid and to do what needs to be done in this community," Mr. Hicks said in his statement. "But this has been a challenge to the faith, vision and courage of my family. We have come to feel after many years and countless prayers that this is the mission opportunity where God would have us go. This is not to say that all has been done in these churches that needs to be done. This will never be. But we trust that in this new area, God might in some measure use our lives in His service as we trust He has here. And so today it is with sadness and sorrow in our hearts at the thought of leaving all our dear friends, but with steadfast confidence in God's ability to provide for His own that I offer my resignation as pastor of Enon and Mt. Zion Baptist Churches to be effective March 1, 1957."

Mr. Hicks explained that as a result of his visit to this area to preach a "trial sermon" that he had been called to Enon and Mt. Zion and had begun work on Aug. 1, 1949. "I did not realize when I came to Oxford just how blessed I was. I did not see then all the good things God was preparing for me and my family. From the first day we were here, we were assured of a real place in the hearts of our members and the ties of love and friendship have been steadily deepened and strengthened through the years. We have rejoiced together, sorrowed together, planned together, worked together, grown together. The pastor can say with the utmost truth that each year has brought increased reasons for gratitude. See HICKS, Page 8

'Copter Grounded

"Soupy weather" grounded the National Guard helicopter which was to bring blue crutches here Saturday morning, but the March of Dimes sale of the plastic devices went along as planned.

Chairman John D. Mackie expressed regret that the flight was cancelled, but he also expressed appreciation for the fine spirit of Oxford High sophomores who went out in the mist and dampness to sell crutches. No report was available yesterday on results of the sale.

Pierre Leveque, Jr., Named by Committee

Pierre A. Leveque, Jr., of this city, has been advised that he will have opportunity later this month to appear before the District Selection Committee of the John Motley Morehead Foundation as an applicant for a Morehead Scholarship at the University of North Carolina.

Leveque was one of three applicants from schools of Oxford and Granville County this year. The Morehead Scholarship Committee of Granville County, of which Fred Webb, Jr., is chairman, recommended the Oxford High senior.

Other members of the Granville County Committee who have served for several years with Chairman Webb are Claude A. Renn and Tom Johnson.

"I congratulate you on this recognition, which brings honor to you, your county and your school," Coach Bob Fetzer, executive secretary of the Morehead Scholarship Committee, wrote Leveque.

Mrs. Mamie C. Yancey Buried in Virginia

Mrs. Mamie Currin Yancey, 72, a native of Granville County and a long-time resident of Chester, Va., died on Jan. 4 at the residence of a daughter, Mrs. J. Winston Edwards at Coboke. King William County, Va. She was the wife of Roger Smith Yancey and daughter of John B. Currin and Sophronia Currin of Granville County.

In addition to her husband and daughter, she is survived by two other daughters, Mrs. Edsel E. Smoosmith and Miss Sophronia Yancey, and a son, Macon Yancey, all of Chester, Va., a sister, Mrs. W. R. Oakes of Durham, and a brother, Crawford C. Currin of Stovall; also two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 3:30 p. m. Monday at Small Funeral Home, Colonial Heights, Va., with burial in Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, Va.

Methodist Bodies To Convene Here Thursday Evening

Four Commissions in Oxford Subdistrict to Convene at Methodist Church

Oxford Methodist Church is to be the meeting place Thursday, Jan. 10, for four commissions of the church in the Oxford sub-district. The two-hour session is to begin at 7 p. m., the Rev. Russell Harrison, pastor, stated.

The sub-district meeting has been called by Dr. C. D. Barcliff, superintendent of the Durham district. The Oxford meeting is one of four being held this week in the Durham district. The first was held Monday night at Trinity Church, Durham; the one Wednesday night is at Long Memorial, Roxboro, and the one Friday night will be in Carrboro.

"We would like to have in attendance from each church all members of the commissions on Membership and Evangelism, Education, Missions and Finance," Dr. Barcliff wrote Mr. Harrison. He also urged that the members of the official board of each church attend, together with the heads of various organizations within the church.

Among the leaders and resource people to participate in the Oxford meeting are Rev. H. K. King, executive director of the Conference Board of Evangelism; Rev. J. M. Cline, district secretary; Rev. V. E. Queen, president of the Conference Board of Education; Rev. C. O. Morris, executive secretary of the Conference Board of Education and district directors; Miss See METHODIST, Page 8

Business Increase In Area Reflected In Firm Listings

A 50 per cent increase in Granville County listings by Dun and Bradstreet of manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers in this area over a seven-year period ending in November of the past year is shown in the Reference Book issued by the concern.

In November, 1949, Granville had 21 listings and in the same month of 1956, the total had increased to 327. In the same period, Oxford had an increase of 17.8 per cent, the number increasing from 191 to 225.

Vance County had an increase of 2.3 per cent, from 438 to 448, and Henderson an increase of 1.7 per cent, from 415 to 422 listings; Person County an increase of 37.9 per cent, from 216 to 298 listings, and Roxboro a whopping 58.3 per cent, from 168 to 266 listings.