

# The Yadkin Ripple

TRUTH, HONESTY OF PURPOSE AND UNTIRING FIDELITY TO OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FLAG IS OUR AIM AND OUR PURPOSE

VOL. XXXVIII

YADKINVILLE, YADKIN COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY JULY 14, 1932

No. 28

## Death Of Young Reynolds Remains Baffling Mystery To Authorities

Winston-Salem, July 11.—A coroner's jury which had studied the case for three days refused tonight to fix the responsibility for the death of Smith Reynolds, returning an indecisive verdict that the heir to tobacco millions came to his death from a bullet wound at the hands of a party or parties to the jury unknown.

The verdict left the case about where it was when the jury first began its investigation last Friday, but had the effect of releasing from custody Libby Holman, his widow, and Albert Walker, his secretary, who were held as material witnesses by order of the jury.

No responsibility was placed upon the grand jury as a result of the verdict, and it may or may not, as its members see fit, begin an investigation of its own. The grand jury meets tomorrow.

The coroner's jury began deliberating at 8 o'clock tonight and reached its verdict at 11:45 p. m. It was signed by every member of the jury.

### Stories Are Doubted

In returning its verdict the jury refused to accept in full faith the stories of Libby, former Broadway blues singer, and Walker, a life-long friend of Reynolds, that the 20-year-old son of the late R. J. Reynolds, wealthy tobacco manufacturer, killed himself.

Libby told the jury she could remember nothing of what happened just before Reynolds was shot or afterwards for some hours but remembered a "flash" in which she saw Reynolds with a pistol to his head, heard him call her name, and saw him fall.

Walker testified Reynolds told him just a few minutes before the shot that killed the youth was fired that he was going to kill himself.

### Leaves For Cincinnati

Winston-Salem, July 12.—Attired in an ensemble of black and sobbing audibly, Libby Holman, Broadway singer and widow of Z. Smith Reynolds, 20, one of the heirs to the vast fortune left by R. J. Reynolds, who was mysteriously slain at Reynolds a week ago this morning, left Winston-Salem yesterday afternoon at 3:25 o'clock on a Norfolk and Western train for her home at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Braving a battery of photographers and running the gauntlet of fifteen or more newspapermen, Libby was hurried to the train by her mother and sister, Mrs. Myron Kahn, and a Negro chauffeur from Reynolds.

"Don't worry darling, it's all right," Mrs. Kahn said, as she comforted her sister who held a handkerchief to her face and shielded her features from the cameramen with a fur neck piece. "It takes a lot of courage," Mrs. Kahn told her after they had advanced a few steps.

### Weeps at Leaving

Mrs. Reynolds was sobbing and muttering incoherent words to her mother and sister during the brief interim from the time the Holman party left the expensive car that brought them to the union passenger station until after they had entered the Pullman. After getting on the car, the party hurried to a drawing room and went into seclusion.

While his family was engaged in getting on the train, Alfred Holman, Cincinnati attorney and father of the Reynolds widow, engaged himself in attending to the baggage. Just before the train pulled out, he walked nonchalantly to the day coach, through the group of newspapermen, and was not recognized. He entered the train without being questioned.

### Earlier Reports

Winston-Salem, July 10.—Mystery hung heavy tonight over the pleasant city of Winston-Salem.

As its citizenry answered the church bells and walked sedately to worship, the thought uppermost in all minds was, how did Smith

### Reynolds die?

Smith was one of Winston-Salem's home town boys. His father was R. J. Reynolds who built from a plug of tobacco the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company and died in 1918 leaving a fortune of millions of dollars.

### Looked To Future

Smith died Wednesday morning from a gunshot wound in his head. He was only 20 years old. He had ahead of him the prospects of a full life. In eight years he would have been twenty millions of dollars richer, left him in a will by his father. He intended to use it to carve for himself a niche in aviation history such as his father had carved in the tobacco business.

This young man had plans for the future. He had every reason to believe that with the billions that were coming and his inherited place in the world, he could carry them out.

He also had a wife who had been an idol on Broadway. She was Libby Holman. She had gone to New York from Cincinnati and eaped overnight into fame by her inging of "Moanin' Low" in the "First Little Show." She and Smith were reputed to be supremely happy. No one could see why he had any reason not to want to live.

### Gave Party

Late Tuesday night, out at Reynolds, the great baronial manor of the Reynolds, three miles from the center of Winston-Salem, Smith and Libby had given a party. Blanche Yurka (whose fame on the stage approached that of Libby Holman) was there. So was Albert Walker, Smith's friend and secretary, and there were a number of Winston-Salem folk, young people of the inner circles of outthern society.

It had been gay. It probably had ranged widely over the 600 acres of Reynolds. There had been swimming in the private lake. There had been bright music and plenty of refreshments. It was no night for tragedy.

But tragedy came just the same. Along in the morning the watchman heard a gun shot and little later someone came screaming for help—Smith had been shot. The shot had gone into his right temple just at the line of his hair and had come out behind and below the left ear.

### Never Spoke

They took him to a hospital. But he died without ever saying a word.

Libby had been nearby. She told a coroner's inquest that her mind had gone blank for hours that time. But she did remember a vision of Smith standing at the foot of her bed, a pistol in his hand, and she could recall him saying "Libby." That was all.

Because authorities chose to keep the inquest secret, no one knows what Blanche Yurka said, nor what Albert Walker said. But this much is known.

Libby today is held under guard at the Reynolds home, as a material witness in the matter of the death of her husband.

Walker is held in the same status at the Forsyth jail.

Blanche Yurka has been asked to remain in Winston-Salem and she has complied by remaining a guest at Reynolds.

Meantime officers are trying to answer for the people of Winston-Salem the riddle of Smith Reynolds' death. As far as is known publicly their success has not been great. But they have hopes for the next few days. Tomorrow afternoon the inquest, interrupted Saturday when Libby was ordered held, will be resumed. Maybe there will be more light shed then.

### Clues Are Meagre

So far the clues are meagre, there was blood on the floor at the foot of Libby's bed. There were stains in the bathroom. There was Smith's pistol, an automatic from which one shot had been fired found in the bathroom.

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## UNION GROVE NEWS

Mrs. Kate Dwiggins and children, Mary Lee, Helen and Gerald and Mrs. Ruby Windham and children, Charles and James, of High Point, spent the latter part of last week with their sister, Mrs. J. A. Wiseman.

Little Miss Ruth Caudle spent the week-end with little Miss Mary Hobson.

The many friends of Mr. George Wiseman will be glad to know that he has returned home after spending more than 9 months at the North Carolina Sanatorium in Hoke County.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hobson were the dinner guests of Mrs. and Mrs. Winfield Hobson Sunday.

Misses Naomi and Zelta Caudle and Misses Lora Cranfield, Mozell Hinshaw and Aline Hobson, were the guests of Misses Lola and Alia Wiseman Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Pride Wooten and family and Mrs. Wooten's mother and a Mrs. Wilhelm, of near East Bend, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Vance Hobson.

Mr. Troy Cranfill was the Sunday guest of Messrs. George and Alfred Wiseman.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McCollem spent the week-end in Forsyth county with Mrs. James Caudle. Mr. McCollem's mother who has been real sick for some time shows but little improvement.

## MISSSES MATTHEWS ENTERTAIN

Misses Eva and Opal Matthews entertained their sister, Miss Bessie Matthews, a saleslady in the ready-to-wear department of the Charles Store, at their home on Highway 67, July the 9th.

An amusing and unique part of the evening entertainment was a smelling contest. Out of the fifty invited guests, Miss Norma Wilhelm had the most accurate nose with Miss Annie Angell and Hugh Myers running a close second.

## FOUR-POUND RATS KILLED AT KINSTON

Kinston, July 5.—Rats weighing as much as four pounds were killed by Floyd Johnson, farmer living near this city, and several helpers in a "rat-killing" staged recently.

The men shut themselves in a barn infested with the rodents, stuffed holes and cracks and proceeded with the killing. When they had finished they counted 132 dead rats and 32 mice. All were clubbed.

Some of the rats were as large as cats, literally, having fattened on the corn and other produce stored in the barn.

## IF YOU LIKE HIM, LET HIM KNOW IT

If with pleasure you are viewing any work a man is doing  
If you like him or you love him, tell him now  
Don't withhold your approbation till the parson makes oration  
As he lies with snowy lillies o'er his brow  
For no matter how you shout it, he won't really care about it  
He won't know how many tear-drops you have shed,  
If you think some praise is due him, now's the time to slip it to him;  
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead!  
More than fame and more than money is the comment kind and sunny  
And the hearty warm approval of a friend;  
For it gives to life a savor, and it makes you stronger, braver,  
And it gives you heart and spirit to the end  
If he earns your praise, bestow it; if you like him let him know it  
Let the words of true encouragement be said;  
Do not wait till life is over and he's underneath the clover,  
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead.  
If any wishes to write I will answer all mail received.  
I will leave my name with the editor.

## DEATH OF JAMES PINNIX

Died near Yadkinville on July 10, 1932, James Lester Pinnix, of a complication of diseases being 13 years, 7 mo, 7 days old. He is survived by his parents, Andrew Pinnix and Mrs. Edna Pinnix, also by two brothers, Talmage and J. C. and one sister, Mrs. Ada Shore.

Brief funeral services were conducted at the home in very appropriate manner by Rev. Glenn Algood and Geo. Macy and also at the Algood graveyard where the body was interred. Pallbearers were Geo. Dobbins, Howard Dixon, Lester Dixon, Delmer Hoots, Ed McCormick and Carl Sprinkle. Lester was a noble boy, always ready to do the bidding of his parents. All the neighbors freely comment on his splendid qualities.

He attended Sunday School regularly when his health permitted.

We feel his soul has entered the realms of the blest and still lives in the land beyond the sunset where we never grow old.

"My hopes are with the dead;  
Anon  
My place with them will be,  
And I with them shall travel on  
To all eternity:  
Yet leaving here a name, I trust,  
That shall not perish in the dust."

—Contributed by a Friend.

## UNION COUNTY MAN SHOOTS HIS ARM OFF

Monroe, June 30.—P. A. Pusser, who lives two miles north of Unionville, accidentally shot his left arm off with a shot gun yesterday afternoon. Returning from a mill Pusser saw a hawk near his home. Upon arriving he went into the house, got his shot gun and started toward the door. In some manner the trigger of the gun caught on a chair in the living room and the explosion tore into Pusser's side and arm.

## WOMAN'S IDEA FOR HELPING NEEDY FAMILIES IS SUCCESS

Charleston, S. C.—A woman's idea for helping six Charleston families, hit by the depression, to get on their feet again is making good headway.

These families were moved on farms in the county early in the spring, and a check-up of their activities shows that the suggestions of Miss Caroline Alston, home demonstration agent, gives promise of making the farm colonizing plan a success.

They are producing feed for their livestock and food for themselves. The plan called for making 10 acres available to each family. They they were to have rent free for one year. Fertilizer and seed were furnished, and each family received two brood sows, a cow and 100 baby chicks in addition to food for themselves and livestock until such times as the farms should become self-sustaining.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AT DEEP CREEK

The Fall Creek Township Sunday School Convention to be held at Deep Creek Friends Church Friday night, Saturday evening and Saturday night before the fourth Sunday in July. (this month)

Friday night at 8 p. m. Devotional exercise conducted by Mr. Clyde Adams.

Welcome address by Mr. W. E. Wooten.

Response by Mr. S. W. Matthews.

Programs from the following schools: Richmond Hill, Friendship, Prospect and Mt. Pleasant.

Saturday evening at 2 p. m. Devotional by Mr. W. M. Matthews.

Business session of the convention.

Programs from Deep Creek and New Home.

Saturday night.

Devotional by Mr. Bahnsen Caudle.

Programs from Union Cross, Union Grove and Forbush.

Announcements.

Benediction.

W. H. Adams, chairman.  
S. W. Matthews, Sec.

## LET'S DEFLATE HOKUM

(By Bruce Barton)  
In 1865 it was proposed to John Stuart Mill that he should run for Parliament.

He answered that he was willing to do so, provided the voters understood he would not make any election speeches or put up one cent, and that, if elected, he would support such national issues as appealed to his best judgement and do nothing for the local interests of his district.

He says in his autobiography that "a well known literary man was heard to say that the Almighty Himself would have no chance of being elected on such a program."

Nevertheless, Mill's candidacy made remarkable progress, and just before the election he agreed to appear at a few meetings in order to answer questions.

In on of his earlier books he had made the remark that the 'working classes, though differing from those of some other countries, is being ashamed of lying, are yet generally liars.'

Some opponent put this on a placard and at a meeting of working men Mill was asked whether he had written and published it. He promptly answered: "I did."

What followed is so remarkable that I quote it verbatim:

"Scarcely were these two words out of my mouth when vehement applause sounded through the whole meeting. It was evident that the working people were so accustomed to expect equivocation and evasion from those who sought their sufferages, that when they found, instead of that, a direct avowal of what was likely to be disagreeable to them, instead of being affronted they concluded at once that this was a person whom they could trust. . . .

"The first working man who spoke after the incident said that the working classes had no desire not to be told of their faults; they wanted friends not flatterers. . . . And to this the meeting heartily responded."

It has long been my conviction that politics has not kept up with popular intelligence, that the people are sick of hokum and the politicians have not found it out. I believe we are at a point in this country when men can be elected to office, as Mill was elected in London, by courageously telling the truth.

I admit I have not much evidence to support this conviction. But I certainly should like to see it tried out.

## MELLON AWARDED DEGREE

Edinburgh, Scotland, June 30.—United States Ambassador Andrew W. Mellon today received in person an honorary degree of doctor of laws from the University of Edinburgh.

## LITTLE GIRLS CAPTURE RATTLE SNAKE ALIVE

Troy, June 30.—One day last week two little girls of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Thompson were out picking blackberries near their home on the farm of Judge W. A. Cochrane, which is near Shelter Mountain Peach Farm, the little girls are about 12 and 14 years of age. They hearing a noise which proved to be a rattle snake with 10 rattles and a button. The little girls got them a forked stick and emptying their berries on the ground put the snake in the bucket, one holding the snake's head down with the stick the other carrying the bucket took the snake home alive. When they reached home with the snake they sold him to a man for \$5.00. Which in this case proved to be more profitable than the berries even if it was more dangerous.

## HAMS ARE STOLEN FROM COUNTY HOME

Statesville Daily.

The individual who broke into the meat house at the Iredell county home for the aged and infirm some time Thursday night and stole five choice hams is thought to have won classification among the "meanest men."

The theft was not discovered until Friday evening when the cook went to the smokehouse to secure a supply of meat. The house was entered through a window, after the wire screen had been cut. The only clue was in tracks in a nearby field, according to report from Sheriff Kimball's office this morning.

## ONE LEGGED NEGRO GIVES MEN SCARE

Lexington, July 7.—Robert Harris, one-legged negro of this city, is reported to have given the two white occupants of another automobile a decided scare when their car collide with his and overturned it several times. As Harris crawled out a window and announced he would call the sheriff, one of the white men is reputed to have told the other, "My God, one of his legs has been cut off," and the two fled. However, they returned and agreed, to replace Harris' destroyed fli-ver.

## ROCKEFELLER PLAYS GOLF ON MORNING OF HIS 93RD BIRTHDAY

Tarrytown, N. Y., July 8.—John D. Rockefeller, Sr., spent his 93rd birthday as he spends most of his days now, in a quiet, leisurely manner in the bosom of his family.

He rose at 8 o'clock had a light breakfast of fruit juice and cereal, and then took a slow stroll about the lawn adjacent to the mansion at Pocantico Hills, receiving the greetings of gardeners, workmen and the household staff.

At 10 o'clock he played golf on his private course, staying out until 11:30 because of the fine, cool day.

Tonight there will be informal dinner at which Mr. Rockefeller's son, John D., Jr., and his children will be the only guests.

## MOTOR EXPRESS TO FIGHT RAILROADS

Raleigh.—The first step of a prospective legal battle to keep the railroads out of the trucking field was taken before the corporation commission today in the form of exceptions to the order issued last week authorizing the Seaboard Aid Line to operate highway freight service between Hamlet and Monroe.

The exceptions were filed by Edwin Bridges of Charlotte, attorney for the Miller Motor Express company, holder of a trucking franchise over the route.

Should the commission overrule the exceptions, the next step for the truck line would be to appeal to the superior court. The order gives the Seaboard authority to transport the truck on Route 60, between Hamlet and Monroe commodities delivered to its warehouses.