

TWO NEGROES HELD IN GASTONIA CASE

Arrested at Gainsville Ga. Answer Description in Every Respect

Two negroes, one a tall ginger cake giant, six feet high, the other a short fat, black negro are, held in the Hall county jail here for further investigation by the authorities of Gaston county, N. C., in connection with the murderous outrage of Gastonia. The tall negro is named Johnny Jones. He claims Wilmington as his home. The short, squat negro goes by the name of Herman Allison and says that he was born and raised at Kannapolis, N. C., living there until three years ago. Neither young Killan, the partner of the murdered Ford boy, nor Miss Effie Grice, one of the outraged girls, who came here to identify the negroes are able to swear positively that the two men held here are the guilty ones. They, however, say that they answer description. One is a tall and yellow and has a deformed right foot which causes a pronounced limp when he walks. He has a decided brogue in his talk, a fact which was commented upon in Gastonia by the victims. The other is short and black and has a black mustache.

Both negroes were arrested at Lula, Ga., 15 miles north of here Tuesday morning after coming out of a box car full of cotton seed hulls where they claimed they had spent Monday night. Information from North Carolina had reached this section of Georgia Monday and the officers were on the lookout everywhere for suspicious characters. The negroes who were arrested and lodged in the Hall county jail here, claimed that they had just left a negro with a limp, about 250 miles south of here at Tifton and were making their way to North Carolina. They claimed they left Tifton Saturday night at 2 o'clock and passed through Atlanta Sunday night.

Owing to the fact that Killan and Miss Grice are unable to identify positively the two negroes they are being held here a fact story of connection with the show is being investigated and until they develop further, they will remain in the jail here. Killan and Miss Grice, says the victim, Kellan and Miss Grice, and also the father of a second child, that it is one of the most striking coincidences of criminal annals.

The victims told in Gastonia Sunday night that one negro was tall and yellow and limped when he ran and that the other was short and chunky and black. Every one of these details is true to the letter. Both negroes were wearing army trousers and shirt, trousers over the regular civilian trousers. Killan says that they had on only the civilian trousers Sunday night or else had the army pants underneath. Both Killan and the Grice girl say that the time of the murder, features, lips, etc., correspond exactly with the negroes who assaulted them. Sheriff Crow is holding the negroes while the Gastonia officials get in touch with the Tifton authorities to verify or exclude the story of the minstrel.

The scene in the old Hall county jail, on one of the dark back streets of Gastonia, this morning at the several hour of 5 o'clock, is one that beggars description. Arriving in Gainsville on train No. 35 at 4:30 o'clock the two Gastonia officers, Killan and Miss Grice and the newspaper man were met at the station by the Gainsville police and escorted to the city hall. In a few moments Sheriff Crow, who has held his position in this county for 16 years came and related the capture and heard the details of the crime and the description of the assaultants. "I know I've got your men."

At 6 o'clock the party went to the jail. Chief Orr and Sheriff Carroll talked to the men alone at first. Later Killan and the Grice girl were sent up and the negroes forced to talk within hearing distance of the two, but out of sight. The expression used at the scene of the tragedy was repeated by the negroes. They were brought out in the dark corridors of the jail and placed directly facing Killan and the girl. All was in darkness. In a moment the light was flashed full on their faces. The negroes blinked their eyes but turned not a hair. They were made to talk again, and forced to run up and down the jail corridors while the inmates, 32 of them including three life-tenants, peered out of their cells in the darkness at the strange sight, taking place before their eyes in the cold grey dawn of a rainy November morning. It was a weird, ghastly experience. Both negroes protested their innocence even when put through a grueling examination. Their tales conflict as to their connection with this show in Alabama and southern Georgia. They were familiar with North Carolina towns and cities, and have worked on construction gangs. For these reasons and because of the absolute accuracy of the description with which they talk, they are being held for further investigation.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ARE AROUSED OVER CONDITIONS

Students of the University of North Carolina have started a campaign to tell the people of the state the conditions under which they are forced to live because of overcrowded dormitories and inadequate eating facilities. In the biggest and most serious minded mass meeting of the year held last week one thousand of them resolved that if living conditions, which were characterized by the student speakers as unfit for men, were to be bettered, it would be by the efforts of the students themselves.

They have a thundering vote of unanimous approval to a program of what they called "Giving the people of North Carolina the facts," as outlined by their student campus cabinet and they prepared and voted again unanimously to send a message to the people stating their case. "As part of the large company



ELSIE FERGUSON STAR IN PARAMOUNT PICTURES

of your sons and daughters who today crowd the North Carolina Colleges, we wish to face facts with you," said this message, the adoption of which was moved by E. E. Rives, of Greensboro. "The main fact is that the public schools are turning out graduates in far larger numbers than the colleges can take care of in a decent way. Over 3,000 will graduate from the high schools next spring. Even now students eat in shifts in Chapel Hill boarding houses and are packed three and four in a room in the dormitories. Our congestion here is but representative of the congestion in all of the North Carolina Colleges.

"We present these facts to you with their simple story of present urgent need of room in which to eat, sleep, and study. We hope the churches will build more buildings, the denominational colleges and the state will build more buildings at the state colleges. "The main fact is not our present congestion, evident as that is in fact and significance, but the larger concern is to make room for the boys and girls who even now are treading in their hearts the hope of going to college in North Carolina, with belief in her greatness we trust that North Carolina will not close the doors in their faces.

"We send this message of hope to the people of North Carolina with confident faith that the people, armed with the facts, will rise up and meet a big problem in a big way. "The student body has not been so stirred in many years as it has become over its present overcrowded condition, and last week's meeting, arising spontaneously from the students and backed by the leading men in the college took on the character of a crusade.

BOARD REGENTS MEET OFFICERS

The board of Regents recently appointed by the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina at its session in Wilmington, held its first meeting yesterday at Barium Springs. The Board as now constituted is made up of sixteen members, eight being women and eight men. The membership being as follows: Mrs. R. F. Abernethy of Lincoln, Mrs. W. R. Gray of Davidson, Mrs. J. T. French, of Wilmington, Mrs. J. H. Suttentfield, of Monroe, Mrs. George Haword of Tarboro, Mrs. W. B. Ramsay of Hickory, Mrs. Donald Melver of Burlington, Miss Pattie Watkins of Red Springs and Rev. R. A. Lapsley of Tarboro, Dr. J. H. Henderlite of Gastonia, Mr. E. F. Murray of Lumberton, Dr. A. S. Johnson of Charlotte, Mr. A. R. McEachern of St. Pauls, Rev. R. Murphy Williams of Greensboro, Mr. Z. V. Turlington of Mooresville and Mr. W. H. Sprunt of Wilmington.

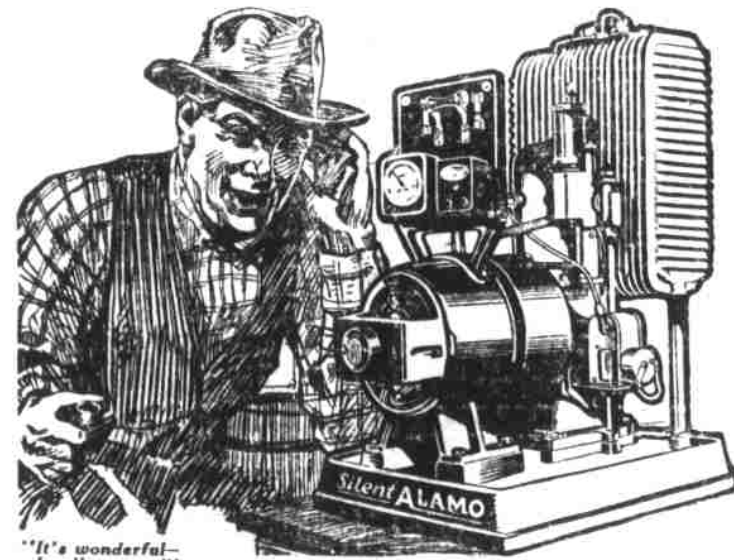
The meeting was primarily for the purpose of selecting a president and other officers of the governing body, no business affecting the work or the plans of the orphanage being taken up. Another meeting will be held in Charlotte within the next few weeks at which time the future policy of the orphanage will be outlined. Rev. A. R. Lapsley of Tarboro was chosen as the president of the new board; Rev. R. Murphy Williams, of Greensboro was elected as vice-president and Mrs. W. B. Ramsay of Hickory was made secretary. Numerous committees and sub-committees were appointed and the board organized. The reports of the superintendent of the orphanage and of Mr. Walker were reviewed and a general discussion of the plans concerning the future work was taken up. According to the plans of the Synod, more than half a million dollars will be spent within the next five years in enlarging and improving this institution.

DIPHTHERIA BEING CONQUERED SAYS BULLETIN

In October issue of the State Board of Health's bulletin a successful warfare against diphtheria is indicated in a line of statistics beginning with 1915. Then there were 525 deaths in each 100,000 population. In 1916 the number was 418; in 1917 it was 308, 1918 the drop

was to 252 and in 1919 to 242. Available statistics for 1918 show that that there were 252 deaths in 1,300 cases and in 1919 there were 242 deaths in 3,519 cases, the fatality in the first being 18.47 and in the second 6.88. Thus there is a marked, a radical reduction in deaths. To antitoxin belongs the credit for this success on the outside of disease. This antitoxin is furnished by the State Board of Health at 25¢ which is below cost. Appropriations from the Legislature makes up the difference. The bulletin prints a letter from a

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woman who says her druggist charged her \$12.00 for the antitoxin. The Board does not rail at the druggist. It appeals to his moral sensibilities and asks him if he will cooperate in saving lives by selling this medicine at cost. The family doctor can get the medicine, and he is asked to do so as he should look after the financial interests of his patients as well as the disease. When results are the same he should save them money.

NO HOME BREWING TO BE PREMITTED

Home brewing was brought actively under the prohibition ban today when it was learned that enforcement officials had ruled against the sale of hops and malt to others than bakers and confectioners. Great secrecy surrounded the prohibition bureau's action, but it was ascertained definitely that such instructions had been issued.

Details of the order were lacking. The only admission made prohibition officials in the absence of Commissioner Kramer was the Volstead act had been construed to mean that the sale of hops and malt as component parts of home-made beer were without the pale of the law and their sale must stop. Enforcement officials throughout the country have been notified of the government's determination, but they have not been supplied with the technical language of the decision.

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