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RITCHIE HAMILTON CASE TRIED TODAY

HEARD BEFORE RECORDER PUBLISHED AT THE COURT HOUSE.

Testimony of the Witnesses, and Also of the Principals—Messrs. Means and Messrs. Represent Mr. Hamilton, Messrs. Crowell and Counsel Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Hartsell the State. Trial of Case Will Continue All Day.

The case of the State vs. M. A. Hamilton and M. F. Ritchie, charged with an affray, was tried this morning before Recorder Puryear. The trial was held at the court house, the charge being made on account of the large crowd in attendance. Senator L. T. Hartsell represented the State and Messrs. T. D. Means and W. G. Means Mr. Hamilton and Messrs. J. L. Crowell and E. T. Canaler, of Charlotte, Mr. Ritchie.

Miss Beattie Blackwelder, cashier at Efrd's, where the shooting occurred, was the first witness called. Miss Blackwelder testified that she saw the start of the trouble between Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Hamilton. She stated that she saw Mr. Ritchie when he came to the store and handed Mr. Hamilton a bill and that she saw Mr. Hamilton go and write a check. The witness stated that when Mr. Hamilton handed the check to Mr. Ritchie the latter said that anybody that would do like you have done would be and steal. When he said that he went around behind the counter where Mr. Hamilton was and hit him. When the first shot was fired I went out.

The witness was examined by Mr. Canaler. She said that she did not hear what Mr. Ritchie said when he came in and after being questioned at length as to where the two men were standing the location of the counters, etc., the witness was turned over to Mr. Hamilton's counsel. The examination was conducted by Mr. Means. After a brief examination she was excused.

Mr. Thomas Hopkins, a clerk at Ritchie Hardware Company, testified that when he ran into Efrd's store he saw Ritchie have Hamilton by the hand in which he was holding a pistol. Mr. Hopkins went out with him and he heard Mr. Ritchie say: "I am shot." Mr. Hopkins also testified that he grabbed Hamilton and while he was holding him he turned and snatched the pistol at Mr. Ritchie. Dr. Young, who treated Mr. Ritchie, was examined. Dr. Young stated that Mr. Ritchie had two wounds, one in the breast caused by a bullet and one on the hip, probably caused by a kick. He testified that the bullet would have healed but that the other one had not and that he was still treating him for it. Dr. Young testified further that Mr. Ritchie's life hung in the balance as a result of injury.

Senator Hartsell then rested for the State. Mr. M. F. Ritchie was then called. Mr. Ritchie testified that he took the bill to Mr. Hamilton on Monday evening. I said: "Mr. Hamilton here in your bill, deduct what you want to; we've had enough trouble about this matter. I was standing at corner of the counter figuring when he gave me the check."

"I said Hamilton, I have been doing business with a lot of people but this is the meanest treatment I ever received and don't you ever darken the door of the Hardware store again. He said I am as good as you or any other man. I started to hit him and he pulled his gun on Hamilton pointed the pistol at me and snatched it." Mr. Ritchie said that he was in the hospital a month and the wound in his breast was healed but that his shoulder and other wound caused him pain and he did not dare to life anything. On cross examination Mr. Ritchie said that he saw Mr. Efrd that morning and that they had a talk about the bill and that he asked Mr. Efrd what time the store closed, he wanted to go over there and compromise the matter and tell Hamilton what he thought of him. He said that he had no idea of fighting him and that he had kept Mr. Hopkins from whipping him the Friday before when Hamilton was in the store and had some same tall evening. Mr. Ritchie then gave the history of the buggy transaction stating that he had exchanged the buggy several times in order to make it satisfactory with Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. B. A. Moore corroborated Mr. Hopkins' testimony. Mr. Jim Barner, who was in the hardware store on Friday and heard the conversation corroborated Mr. Ritchie as to what was said.

Mr. Hamilton was then called to the stand. He identified the pistol and stated that he bought it at Ritchie Hardware Company. When asked what occurred on the afternoon of the difficulty Mr. Hamilton said Mr. Ritchie came into the store and said "here is the statement, take off what you want to." I said "Mump." He said "That up." I said he might be a little nervous. When I

would do that way would lie and steal. I started to say something and he said: "shut up, if you don't I will kill you," and started toward me. He caught me by the coat and had me over the counter knocking me when I shot.

Mr. Hamilton then told of being injured on the face, neck and back. He stated that he brought the pistol to the store that morning, after hearing that Mr. Ritchie had said he would "fix" him. The witness was rigidly cross examined by Mr. Canaler but stuck to his original statement.

The court adjourned to meet again at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS ARE PRESENTED.

Seven Graduates of the Seminary and Five of the Collegiate Institute. Extensive Improvements to Be Made at the Institute. Both Schools to Open September 27.

At Pleasant, May 22.—The exercises this morning consisted of awarding diplomas, presentation of medals and announcements. After prayer by Rev. J. L. Morgan, of Raleigh, the medals were presented. There are now five gold medals given at the institute, the fifth having been endowed by Rev. J. J. Long—the medal for proficiency in Greek. This medal was won by Mr. F. L. Harkey and was presented in a happy address by Mr. Long. In a brief address, fitting the occasion, Prof. G. F. McAllister presented the orator's medal to Mr. J. L. Yost; the debater's medal to Mr. C. B. King; the declaimer's medal to Mr. F. L. Broad, and the Ludwig Scholarship medal to Master C. Garver Jones, one of the smallest and youngest students in the Institute.

President J. H. C. Fisher presented the diplomas to the members of the graduating class of Mont Amoen Seminary. Misses Ethel Setzler, Helen Misenheimer, Vivian Misenheimer, Ruth Frey, Lettie Roody, Edna Brown and Mary Joyner are the class of 1912. President Fisher's remarks on these occasions are ever timely and interesting, but never have they been more pertinent and proper than this morning.

Prof. McAllister presented the diplomas to the five young men, composing the graduating class of the Institute. They are Messrs. C. H. Crane, H. M. Faggart, H. E. Isenhour, J. L. Yost and F. L. Harkey. Prof. McAllister's parting words to the class this morning will no doubt be long remembered by them, and will be treasured up as one of the bright hours of their lives.

In behalf of Mont Amoen Seminary, Prof. Fisher announced that the next session would begin September 17 in the new building, is possible, but if not in the new home, then in such quarters as may be provided. The architect will be here in a few days, and it is likely that the building committee will accept the plans which have been on exhibition in Cook & Foll's window this week. A few changes may take place in the faculty of the institution which will be given out at a later date.

Speaking for the Collegiate Institute, Prof. McAllister had some things to say with regard to the future. The board of trustees met yesterday, and made provision for extensive improvements to be made on the buildings and grounds during vacation. The decision to rebuild the Seminary here has put new life into the Collegiate Institute and is now expected to push forward more rapidly than it has yet been able to do. It is only a question of a short time until a new building will be erected on the campus to take the place of the one destroyed by fire a few years ago, and like the Seminary it will be far more imposing than the old one. The unsettled state of affairs existing for some time has retarded these advance steps, but the institutions are now fixed, and both are going to be gainers through fire. It is perhaps not going out of the way to state just here the opinions we have heard expressed this week on the part of both ministers and laymen that the North Carolina Lutheran Synod is more united in the work of her educational institutions today than ever before, that there is a better understanding existing among all parties, which must result in great good for the schools.

The next session of the Institute will open September 17th. No change of special importance will take place in the faculty, with the single exception of the commandant to succeed Capt. Cripps, resigned.

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. L. Morgan and the commencement of 1912 was history.

Texas Expects Big Grain Crop. Fort Worth, Texas, May 23.—Dumper grain crops are predicted for the Southwest this year by the Texas grain dealers, who assembled here in large number today for the fourteenth annual meeting of their State association. This convention will be in session three days, with James C. Hunt of Wichita Falls presiding.

At Efrd's you will find many extra specials that are worth your attention. They have a line of ham-mocks at from 75 cents to \$2.00 that are worth 25 per cent more. Children's soft sole shoes at 25 cents. Sea Island sheeting at 5 cents. 48c. Here here at 12 1/2 cents, ladies' white shirt waists at 40 cents, and a few of the hundreds of specials they are offering.

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EFIRD TO HAVE BIG STORE IN WINSTON-SALEM.

The Fourth of Their Big Department Stores to Be Established in the Twin City.

The people of this section will learn with interest that the Efrd Bros. Co. will open a new store at Winston-Salem. The company is composed of the Efrd brothers, headed by Messrs. J. B. and E. L. Efrd, mercantile geniuses, and under their guidance the firm has grown into a mammoth mercantile enterprise, operating stores in Concord, Charlotte and Gastonia. The new store will be opened as soon as the building, which is now being remodeled, is completed.

Mr. E. L. Efrd went to Winston-Salem yesterday afternoon on business connected with the opening. In conversation with him a short time before he left Mr. Efrd stated that they had not decided who would go to Winston-Salem and take charge of the business there. It is practically certain though that it will be one of the Messrs. Efrd. The following concerning the new store is from the Winston-Salem Journal:

Efrd Bros. Company, one of the largest firms of Charlotte, has leased from Judge H. E. Starbuck for a term of years the large building on the corner of Fourth and Trade streets, and will establish a giant department store in the Twin-City. It is announced that the new firm will probably open for business about September 1.

Ex-Judge Starbuck announces that the work of repairing the large building which was partially destroyed by fire some time ago, will be commenced at an early date. Contrary to a former announcement, an additional story will not be added, but the building will be left as at present—two stories in height. However, vast improvements will be made in the interior. Especially will these improvements be noticeable in the interior and in the front of the building. No expense will be spared in making the building one of the most suitable for department store purposes to be found in the two Carolinas.

The announcement that Efrd Bros. Company is coming to Winston-Salem will be read with much pleasure by those who have the Twin-City spirit of progress. It means another great enterprise, added to the long list that could now be named.

Efrd Bros. Company already operates department stores, both wholesale and retail, in Charlotte, Gastonia and Concord. All of these will be continued, it is understood—the intention of the company being to add a fourth great store to its chain.

STRIKE OF HANDS ON THE GAS LINE

Twenty-five Go Out Yesterday—Four Remain at Work.

Wanted Wages Increased from 14 to 15 Cents an Hour—Recruits Secured and the Good Work Goes Merrily On—Many Worthless and Idle Negroes on the Streets. A Complaint About the Nuisance at the Lutheran Church Corner.

Plunging their picks to earth and gathering up their dinner pails twenty-five negroes went on a strike on North Union street yesterday afternoon while working for the construction force putting in the gas pipes. From what can be learned the strike was a premeditated, carefully planned move on the part of the negroes. They were receiving 14 cents an hour and demanded 15 cents. The foreman refused the demand and they walked away from their work. Four of the number remained and the work continued. Other hands were soon secured, and the work went on as usual this morning. None of the striking hands ever received over \$1.00 a day for their work before.

There is little surprise that a band of Concord negroes will strike. They had a perfect right to do so if they thought they were not receiving sufficient remuneration for their work, but to anyone familiar with the conditions here there is no doubt but that the strike was the outcome of their method of living. If a negro is allowed to stand on the street corner here and become worthless and insolent, as they do here on practically every street corner, it is no wonder that they strike. It is only reasonable that a negro is not going to work any more than is necessary to get a few morsels of bread when they are allowed to stand on the street corner and hold a high carnival all during the day and night. They not only monopolize the street corners but let something akin to even a dog fight take place and they will raise a shout and hubbub that would disgrace a mining camp.

"I went to fourteen negroes standing on the square the other day and offered them all good wages," said a foreman of a construction company

yesterday, "and not one of them would work."

It is a frequent occurrence for white ladies to be forced to walk in the streets on account of the crowd that gathers on the corners. Take the Lutheran church corner and it is usually lined with them. They gather there in droves all during the day and night and it is frequently difficult for a pedestrian to pass en route to the postoffice, and it is not proper that this corner could be used as a rendezvous for negroes. On the other corner it is equally as bad. It is not at all uncommon for guests at the St. Cloud Hotel to be awakened by their loud shouts. There is a remedy. If the vagrancy law will be enforced it will be highly effective.

TROLLEY CAR TO BE OPERATED SATURDAY.

Track Force Will Complete Its Work on the Line Tomorrow. More Than One Car Needed.

City Engineer Smith today received a letter from Manager R. J. Hole of the North Carolina Public Service Company stating that he was making arrangements to ship a street car here to take the place of the storage battery car.

The track force will very likely complete their work tomorrow and it is the intention of the company to have the car in operation Saturday. One car, ladies and gentlemen. That is certainly a delightful news. Concord is going to have one (each the number, please) street car. One street car is not enough to give the people here good service and anybody can see it if they know the situation. Concord needs two cars and the citizens here will never be satisfied until two are put on.

Major Hemphill to Leave Charlotte Observer.

Charlotte, May 22.—Major J. C. Hemphill, editor of the Charlotte Observer, has resigned that position, effective June 15, to accept a position on the staff of the New York Times. It is understood that his work on the New York paper will be as a member of the traveling staff and afford a wide and diversified field for his newspaper talents. Major Hemphill came here as editor-in-chief of the Observer about seven months ago from Richmond where he held a similar position on the Times-Dispatch for about a year. Prior to that time he was for about 20 years editor of the Charleston News and Courier.

You will find "A Tenderfoot's Troubles" a good western comedy film that will be run at the Pastime today.

MERELY MARY ANN AT OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT.

An Excellent Presentation By An Amateur Cast.

"Merely Mary Ann" will be rendered at the opera house here tonight under the auspices of the expression department of Mont Amoen Seminary. It will be directed by Miss J. Ethlyn Crabtree and the following is the cast of characters: Launcelot, a composer—F. L. Broad.

Mr. Peter, in business—C. H. Crane. Herr Brahson, a music publisher—D. B. Welsh. O'Gorman, a Sunday journalist—H. M. Faggart. Jim Hlyades, a medical student—F. L. Harkey. Rev. Samuel Smedge, a country vicar—G. F. Conrad. Lord Valentine Foxwell, a Gilded Youth—C. B. King. Mary Ann, Merely—J. Ethlyn Crabtree. Mrs. Ledbetter, a lodging house keeper—Mary Yost. Rosie, her daughter—Helen Misenheimer.

The Sisters Trippitt, music hall dancers—Mary and Laura Heilig. Lady Chelmer, a poor peccess—Margaret McAllister. Caroline, Countess of Foxwell, her friend—Mary Heilig. Lady Gladys Foxwell, daughter of the Countess—Helen Misenheimer. The Maid—Ethel Mae Cobb. Dick—a Canary. Bird-notes by W. C. Newell. Prices, 25, 35 and 50 cents. Tickets on sale at Gibson Drug Store. The proceeds will go to rebuilding Mont Amoen Seminary.

To Celebrate Fifth Year of Mr. Watson's Pastorale.

The fifth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. S. N. Watson, pastor of First Baptist church, will be celebrated June 2. Mr. Watson came to Concord from Heath Springs, S. C., June 2, 1907, and on that date this year he will have served five years. Appropriate exercises will be held and a most interesting programme, including special musical selections, a sermon by the pastor and an address by Mr. B. C. Ashcraft, editor of the Monroe Enquirer.

Salisbury Post, 22nd: Misses Ollie and Sadie Castor, of Cabarrus county, spent this morning in the city, returning from Albemarle where they attended the commencement exercises of the A. N. and I. Institute. Miss Sadie Castor was a student of the institute the past session.

General Strike Order to Be Made in Tie Up 100,000 Men—Wide Spread Suffering Expected. London, May 23.—Forty thousand dock workers struck today in advance of a general strike order which will call out upwards of 100,000 men and absolutely tie up all commerce, causing wide spread suffering. The strikers demand standardization of wages, shorter hours and larger crews.

Roosevelt Opens Up in New Jersey.

Patterson, N. J., May 23.—Declaring that he is fighting not for himself or party but for the people and that the fight is more important than any since the days of Lincoln, Roosevelt today opened his New Jersey campaign here. He said, "I believe in protective tariff but wish to see the benefit get into the pay envelope of the working man as well as appear in dividends. For this reason I advocate creating a national bureau to investigate the problem of industry and see that the problem does really benefit the working man."

Taft, Roosevelt and La Follette in New Jersey.

Trenton, N. J., May 23.—Taft and Roosevelt transferred their activities to New Jersey today and from now until Tuesday they will declare to the voters who each is the only person who should be nominated at Chicago. La Follette opened his campaign in Jersey City last night. The Taft and Roosevelt fight will be bitter, each having arranged to cover every section of the State.

Control of Ohio Conventions in Doubt.

Columbus, Ohio, May 23.—Control of both coming Democratic and Republican conventions is in doubt today. The Roosevelt men claim a slight majority. Harmon Democrats were at first confident of their ability to enforce unite rule which would make ten Wilson National delegates.

Missouri Dedicates Model Road.

Farmington, Mo., May 23.—Exercises were here today in dedication of the model highway recently completed between St. Louis and the Arcadia Country Club at Arcadia, Mo. The road is more than 100 miles in length and was constructed at a cost of about \$65,000, which amount was raised by popular subscription.

H. L. Parks & Co. are offering many specially attractive prices for Friday, Saturday and Monday.

Pretty quality Mulin Cornet Covers, 19c, 25c, 35c AND 50c. Boys' New Patent Leather Boots—White, Red and Black. 10c. Special Values in Corsets at 35c AND 45c. Better ones at \$1.00, \$1.50, AND UP.

Pearl Button Specials.

One Dozen on a card the kind most people sell at 5c—Special, Two for 5c. We sell the best 5c Pearl Buttons on earth. One lot of Pearl Buttons for skirts, sizes up to 36—Special. 5c Card.

Big Values in New Muslin Underwear.

75c Value—Hand embroidered, made of Long Cloth, low neck and short sleeves—Special. 50c. Muslin Gowns at 48c—75c—50c. Ladies' Muslin and Knit Pants—Special. 25c AND 50c. \$1.25 Pyjama Slips. \$1.25 Muslin Combination Suits. 50c. Ladies' Knit Combination Suits. 25c, 35c AND UP.

New Hosiery.

No. 216—Ladies Fine Gown Hose in Black, Tan and White, High rolled heel, garter top—Special. 15c Pair. Red Raven 35c Hose in sizes 6 and 8 1/2, Black only—as long as the last 25c. Ask to see style No. 717—Fine Lisle, Black, White and Tan. 50c Pair.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' BOX.

Printed from 5c Pair up to 25c.

50 Persons Will Make \$20.00 Each Writing Jingles

In May, 1912, we will buy 50 Jingles, suitable for a Post Toasties Jingle Book. You may get \$20.00 for writing an original jingle or for filling in the missing line of the incomplete jingle in the coupon. A fine way to have some fun.

A COMPLETE JINGLE (As an example only) Picnic days are coming, goodness what a treat. Fill up all the baskets; lots of stuff to eat. Never mind the cake and jam, never mind the tea. Plenty of Post Toasties—that's good enough for me.

FINISH THIS JINGLE. Little orphan Ann from far, far away Came to make a visit, and she's going to stay. Roses now are blooming on her cheeks so pale. (Fill in this line, mention Toasties, write plainly)

Use of above form of answer is suggested, but not required. Address and mail your jingles to Jingle Dept. 267, POSTUM CEREAL CO., LTD., BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

We will buy 50 Post Toasties Jingles, acceptable for use in a Jingle Book, received during May, 1912, at \$20.00 each. Only the jingles we pay for will be used. There will be 50 jingles purchased and the names and addresses of the writers will be printed and mailed to each inquirer who sends us a 1c stamped and addressed envelope for return. The jingles will be judged honestly upon merit, so if you are a sensitive person and not a good sportsman don't try, for we have no time to "put up" those whose jingles are not accepted.

Fill in the missing line of the incomplete jingle printed above, making the last line include the name "Toasties," with correct rhyme and metre. Or write an original Post Toasties jingle of not less than 4 lines, any line of which must contain "Post Toasties" or "Toasties." As many jingles may be submitted as desired. It's pleasant recreation and we all get some good from it, besides it may result in your joining the army of users of

Post Toasties

—the delicious food made of crisp, delicately browned bits of corn. With milk or cream it is not easily forgotten.

The Home of

H. L. Parks & Co.

Special Counter Displays in these lines at attractive prices will prove to you that it is to your advantage to trade at PARKS'.