

WITNESS DECLARES MRS. LOWE WAS WITH ANOTHER MAN BEFORE THE HOMICIDE

McDuffie Says He Saw Mrs. Lowe With Man Who Had on Army Shirt—State Witness Declares He Heard Thomas Say He Had Killed Allen, Just After Tragedy.

CONCORD, Jan. 20.—The defense in the trial of G. G. (Red) Thomas, on trial here for the murder of Arthur J. Allen, rested its case this morning at 11:17 o'clock, after offering testimony since Tuesday morning. A number of witnesses were introduced during the morning by the defense, the principal witness being Mrs. Thomas. Court was held up for an hour while she underwent medical examination, she having suffered a nervous collapse shortly after court opened today. She testified principally as to the friendly relations between the Lowe family and Thomas family, and stated that she had heard of the various rides and swimming parties her husband had been on with Mrs. Lowe, and did not object in any way.

A feature of the rebuttal evidence by the State was the testimony of John McDuffie, of Kannapolis, who testified that he saw Mrs. Robert Lowe in a Ford sedan with a man with "an army shirt" on several minutes before the shot which killed Allen was fired. On direct examination the witness stated that he was going to the store of E. E. Lawing when he saw the Ford stop in the road near him. He saw a woman, with light hair, fair complexion, wearing a light colored coat, get out of the car. He was near the rear wheels of the car when the car drove off. He heard the woman say, "I will wait for you."

The Ford drove on to Lawing's store and headed back toward the store on another road. He walked by the woman about 25 yards and saw that she was walking toward the store. He turned back and walked to within three feet of her and said: "Who are you waiting for?" she replied: "If I was waiting for you I would have called you." She told him to go on about his business, and he did.

"Says Woman Was Mrs. Lowe." "Do you know who the woman was?" Solicitor Clement asked. "I do," the witness stated. "Who was it?" Mrs. Bob Lowe, to the best of my judgment." The last answer was given after some hesitation. The witness further stated that he knew Mrs. Carrie Kimball, and that the woman who got out of the Ford was not Mrs. Kimball. He went on to the Lawing store and told E. E. Lawing about seeing and talking to the woman. He said he told Mr. Lawing she was "a front street woman" but did not tell him who it was.

In a few minutes a big car came along down Leonard street and headed around the street leading to the ball park. About three minutes later the Ford sedan came back, picked up the woman and went on down Leonard street. When the car passed in front of Chuch and Davis store he saw two people in it, a man at the wheel and a woman on the back seat. He had walked a short distance from the store when he heard three shots.

On cross examination Mr. McDuffie stuck to his testimony. He stated that he "felt sorry for Mrs. Lowe" and sympathized with her and all other persons connected with the case. He stated, under examination by Mr. Cansler that he was certain the woman he saw was Mrs. Lowe.

Miss Beulah Barlow and Miss Bertha Overcash, who lived at Mrs. L. C. Overcash's at the time of the shooting, were also important rebuttal witnesses. Their testimony was practically the same. The home of Mrs. Overcash is just below the home of O. Overcash. On the night of October 25 they were in the house sewing. They heard a car pass the house and stop just below the house. About one minute after the car passed they heard a door slam. In about 3 minutes they heard three shots. Their cross examination was similar. Miss Barlow stated then she believed she could tell who the woman he saw was Mrs. Lowe.

Mrs. Brodie Daves said she lived just across the street from the Frank Setzer home. She was sitting at the window of her home on the night of the 25th and shortly before 8 o'clock she heard a car stop in front of Roger's home. The car had been there about three or five minutes when she heard three shots. She did not hear another car and did not see a car. Mrs. Chas. Torrance corroborated this testimony, stating that Mrs. Daves told her about it just before Christmas. The women were given a tedious cross examination by Mr. Cansler.

CONCORD, Jan. 20.—The State today resumed its drive against the life of Red Thomas, on trial here charged with a first degree murder. It introduced a witness to prove that Thomas knew just a few minutes after the Bergerburg auto slaying that Arthur J. Allen, the Concord plumber, was the victim of his revolver. It also sought to show by another witness that there was an interval of about a second and a half between the first shot and the last two reports.

Krout Case Will Go To The Jury Late This Afternoon

Case of Check Flasher Is Attracting More Attention in Gastonia Than Many a Murder Case Has Ever Done—Many Ladies Are Attending the Trial—Krout Is Putting Up Strong Fight Through Attorneys.

Not since the conviction of the notorious yegg, "Irish Jimmy," here some ten years ago has there been manifested such a general interest in a trial as is being shown in that of the case of the State vs. W. C. Krout, of Gadsden, Ala., for forgery. Since the trial began on Friday the court room has been crowded at all times and today hundreds of people have been turned away, with every inch of standing room taken up. A remarkable fact is that the audience contains a very large number of ladies, something unusual in Gastonia. Just what feature of the trial has proved such an attraction to the women is not apparent.

At the conclusion of the taking of evidence at 10:30 o'clock this morning the attorneys began to speak. Solicitor George W. Wilson and Mr. Mebane spoke before the noon recess. When court re-opened at 2:30 this afternoon Mr. Stonehall J. Durham opened for the prosecution. He was speaking when The Gazette closed its forms shortly after 3 o'clock. He was to be followed by Mr. John G. Carpenter for the defense and Mr. A. E. Woltz for the prosecution. It seems probable that the case will go to the jury late this afternoon.

Further examination by his own counsel brought from Krout an explanation of how the police secured his picture. He was at one time accused of raising checks in Baltimore and confessed, and while being held on that charge his picture was taken.

On cross examination by Solicitor Wilson the witness stated that he was born and raised in York, Pa., where he lived in a department store. At about 21 years of age he went to Detroit, where he worked for four years. He then went to Greenville, S. C. In December 1917 he went into the army where he stayed till March, 1919. He then entered the employment of the Detroit Automatic Scale Company, for whom he had worked previous to his enlistment. He remained with the firm until February, 1920. He then went to the Metiograph company, of St. Louis, until January 1, 1921. Then employed by the Detroit Automatic Scale Co., until they consigned to work with them as auditor and service man, collecting delinquent accounts in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida and Louisiana. About the middle of August 1921 he left the employ of the Automatic Scales Company, and visited his parents at York, Pa., was also in Washington and Baltimore. Was married to Miss Carrie Lee Stamp at her home in Rome, Ga., on August 16, 1921.

Being closely questioned by the State's counsel on cross examination the defendant went into detail as to the transactions in Baltimore which caused his arrest there. Was there about August 3, 4 and 5. Obtained \$1,500 from the Union Trust Company and \$1,250 from the Maryland Trust Company, on raised checks. In each case he presented what purported to be certified checks on other banks. The certification was genuine, as he had deposited small amounts and secured certified checks for \$10, which he raised with a check-writing machine, one case to \$4,100. When questioned as to where he obtained checks of firms in Cambridge, Va., Charleston, S. C., Atlanta and Norfolk, he confessed that he had picked them up in the offices of these firms while no one was looking. He tried the same scheme on two other Baltimore banks but it failed to work. Was arrested while in Washington while on his honeymoon about August 23, and taken Krout to Baltimore. He still had the greater part of the money, and with the help of his father, repaid all he had secured from Baltimore banks and put up cash bond to appear there for trial later. He testified that he had a check-writing machine of his own, which he had used for some time. Testified that he worked for the Todd Protection Company for about two weeks at one time. After his release in Baltimore, realizing the sad mistake of such a course as he had followed, witness said he went to Gadsden, Alabama, with his wife and returned to the employ of the Automatic Scales Company for whom he had formerly worked.

The second witness for the defendant was his wife, Mrs. Carrie Lee Krout, by whom he was married on August 16, 1921. She is a daughter of Mr. O. L. Stamps, of Rome, Ga., wholesale fruit dealer. She testified that she and her husband boarded at the Mallard hotel or apartments from November 6th to December 11th, during all of which time defendant was not absent a single night and only missed two meals. She explained that his territory as a salesman was near enough to Gadsden so that he could return home every night. The third witness, Mrs. M. T. Hoizel, manager of the Mallard apartments, stated that Krout was in Gadsden with his wife on November 29th. She related an incident of talking with the defendant and his wife on the above date. Similar testimony was given by Mrs. D. S. Lewis, who also boarded at the Mallard and whose daughter is a teacher in the Gadsden public schools. She stated that she fixed the date, November 29th, in her mind by reason of the fact that her daughter attended a banquet of the Woman's Club on that date and the witness played cards in the room of defendant and his wife while her daughter was out at the banquet. On cross examination both of these witnesses were asked if they could state that defendant was in Gadsden on any other particular dates, as for instance on November 15. Could not be positive

as to other dates except the one under consideration. Mr. O. L. Stamps, father of Mrs. Krout, testified that he held a long-distance conversation with his son-in-law, the defendant, at a Gadsden, Ala., on November 29th. On cross-examination, asked how he could so positively determine the day of the conversation, he stated that he had gone to the telephone office and looked up the record of the call and had brought the original ticket with him. It was not offered in evidence. Van Evans, who married another daughter of Mr. Stamps, testified that he was with Krout on both November 28 and 29th and brought him to the Mallard in his car about 4 p. m. November 29th. Mr. S. Fleetwood King, now manager of the Quality Fountain in the J. L. Adams Drug store in this city, testified that he knew Mr. Stamps and Mrs. Krout and that their character was good. Did not know the former husband of Mrs. Krout. Knew her as Carrie Lee Stamps, although he had heard of a former marriage.

E. Stevens, in charge of the Atlanta office of the company for which Krout works as a salesman, testified as to the defendant being an employee of his firm. Offered originals of written orders which Krout had sent into the Atlanta office. These were marked as exhibits, but were not admitted as evidence. Mr. George W. Howell, of Gastonia, also a sales salesman, testified to the good character of witness Stevens. The last witness for the defendant at Friday afternoon's session was Mr. P. M. Sligh, agent for the Southeastern Express Company, of Gadsden, Ala., who testified that he delivered an express package to the defendant on November 29 as shown by the original delivery sheet, which he had with him and which counsel desired to offer as evidence. There was sharp debate between opposing counsel as to the admissibility of this record as evidence. Witness was vigorously cross-examined as to other persons to whom he had delivered shipments on the same day, and as to dates on which he had had other dealings with the defendant.

When court convened at 9:50 Saturday morning the State introduced other witnesses, largely corroborative of previous testimony. Luther Anthony, on re-direct examination as to the testimony of Mrs. Lewis at the hearing before Governor Hardwick, stated that Mrs. Lewis testified that Krout was at the Mallard on November 28th, but was not positive as to his whereabouts on November 29th.

R. E. Caldwell, on re-direct examination, stated that at the Atlanta hearing Mr. Stamps was called to the stand, but did not testify, and made some statement to the effect that he knew nothing about the matter. Witness heard Mrs. Lewis testify in Atlanta and stated that she was positive as to Krout being at home on November 28th, but was not positive as to his being there on November 29th. A new witness, Mrs. M. D. Duffey, of Gastonia, testified that the defendant was the man who on November 29, came into her office on the second floor of the Schneider building and asked if she would be interested in buying a typewriter. He asked about other offices on the same floor, and remained in the room some minutes. Mr. T. B. Hargett testified to having seen the defendant on the same date, Krout having come to the door of his office and asked for the office of some other party. Policeman W. M. Parrish testified to having seen Krout afloat from an interurban car on the morning of November 29. That defendant inquired of him where the office of R. O. Crawford & Company was. Chief Joe E. Orr was called to the stand and corroborated other witnesses as to Mrs. Lewis' testimony at Atlanta. She was positive as to November 28, but not positive as to November 29th. At about 10:10 o'clock the taking of testimony was concluded, and argument to the jury began with Solicitor Geo. W. Wilson speaking for the State. He was followed by Mr. Mebane, of counsel for defense, who spoke for the defendant. At conclusion of Mr. Mebane's address to the jury, Judge Finley ordered court adjourned for the noon recess.

HOPE TO CLEAR AWAY DIFFICULTIES IN WAY OF THE CHINESE PROBLEM

Final Action on Proposal As Presented in Resolution by Secretary Hughes Is Postponed at Suggestion of Japan.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—Despite questions raised as to the practicability of some of its provisions, further discussion today by the arms conference of the Far Eastern committee of the American proposal for publication of all treaties and understandings relating to China were expected in American quarters to clear the way for its formal adoption. "Agreed in principle," final action on the proposal as presented in a resolution yesterday by Secretary Hughes was postponed at this suggestion of Japan after an extended debate on the proposition to include in the published list of agreements entered into between Chinese authorities and private individuals as a bribe. The Japanese suggested that it might be difficult for the foreign governments to secure a complete list of such understandings, since they were not themselves parties to them, and indicated that they desired to communicate further with Tokio before finally accepting this provision.

The resolution as presented by Secretary Hughes provided that all the powers file with the Secretary General of the conference at their earliest convenience all existing commitments regarding China to which they are parties or of which they have knowledge and, also, thereafter any new agreements within sixty days after consummation. An amendment was proposed by Secretary Hughes during the debate by which the Chinese Government, on its part, would undertake to give prompt notification of all existing and future agreements of which it has knowledge. Acceptance of the sub-committee plan for another international gathering in the near future, probably to convene in Washington, to discuss the question of revision of rules of war, appeared to be assured today by the favorable sentiment manifest among the various delegations.

Though as the agenda of the present conference, the sub-committee was said to have concluded that there was neither time nor sufficient material for its adequate consideration. It is interesting to study the State's diversity of feelings on the subject, and the percentage of their total acreage which produces corn. Corn 35.5 percent cotton 29.3 percent wheat 19.9 percent sorghum 4.6 percent beans 1.9 percent peas 1.4 percent sweet potatoes 1.3 percent vetch 1.4 percent soybeans 1.3 percent corn 15.5 percent beans 1.2 percent peas 0.9 percent sweet potatoes 0.8 percent vetch 0.8 percent soybeans 0.8 percent. The average value of all crops, exclusive of land, truck, and pasture, is \$61 per acre for the year 1921. Comparative figures for other states are not set available. "Though we do have 14 crops grown

THERE ARE SOME CHICKENS ON FARM OF MR. W. N. DAVIS

Gastonia Poultry Raiser Has More Than Thousand Chickens and Over 4,000 Hatching in Thousand Dollar Incubator—Little Chicks Are Carefully Tended—Will Sell on Local Market as Broilers.

If Gazette readers wish to see some chickens let them run down to the farm of Mr. W. N. Davis, a few miles south of town near the Rankin mills, and they will see them. In series of pens, yards and houses on Mr. Davis' farm there are beautiful, prize-winning chickens. White Leghorns and Wyandottes comprising the great majority of the feathered flock. Mr. Davis and the manager of his poultry farm, Mr. Trent, estimate that there are one thousand grown chickens on the farm. And the sight of one thousand better White Leghorns and Wyandotte hens and cockerels gathered together on one trawler county farm is unusual. That is not all.

Sometime between Saturday and Monday there will be 1,500 downy white chicks added to the population of the chicken farm, provided all the eggs placed in the incubator three weeks ago hatch. That, of course, is an improbability, but it is expected that at least 50 per cent of the 1,500 due to hatch today and tomorrow will come forth, and a week from today another 1,500 are due, and two weeks later another 1,500. In short, Mr. Davis has in a mammoth incubator 4,500 eggs, approximately one-third of this total having been set at intervals of one week, he getting three weeks ago. This incubator, the best and most modernly equipped to be had, was purchased by Mr. Davis last winter and installed in a specially built brick concrete house. Its capacity is 4,998 eggs. It is heated by a specially designed oil stove and electric device are provided for the circulation of warm air. Automatic regulating device control the heat. From the incubator room it is but a short step to the brooding houses where the young chicks are raised. These houses are not completed are floored with concrete covered with warm straw and shavings and are heated by stoves designed for this purpose.

For several years Mr. Davis has been raising poultry on a limited scale. He has used several brands of incubators and primitive methods of hatching chicks with more or less success. This year he has gone into the poultry business on a large scale. One of the best poultrymen in the State, Mr. Trent, has charge of the chickens. He has designed and built all the new equipment on Mr. Davis' farm. In a few weeks these young chickens will be placed on the local market as "broilers." To the average person acquainted only with the old mother hen and her style of hatching and raising chickens the modern methods used on the Davis farm are a revelation. The most particular care is taken of the eggs from the time they are placed in the incubator until they are hatched. They are inspected and turned daily. Two trays, containing 96 eggs each, are turned over by a simple turn of a handle. In the brooding house every care is taken to keep the young chicks from becoming

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LLOYD GEORGE DECLARES THAT GENOA CONFERENCE WILL HELP END ALL WARS

Says That If There Had Been a Conference in July, 1914, There Would Have Been No War in August, 1914—Peace of World Depends Upon Good Understanding Between United States and England—Prime Minister Is Believer in League of Nations.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—An appeal to the nations to establish a real peace by which international confidence and world trade might be restored was made by Prime Minister Lloyd George in a lengthy speech before the National Liberal Conference here today. He lauded the achievements of the Washington conference, declaring it had played an especially notable part in restoring the understanding between Great Britain and the United States and said the task of the coming Genoa conference would be to end the constant wars and rumors of wars. Mr. Lloyd George said he looked to the Genoa gathering to restore peace in the east and he pleaded for a reduction in the cost of armament. "Nations must be prepared to take risks for peace," he declared. "Much of the world's evil with domestic economies and policies. As was expected, he declared for continuation of an alliance of all elements of the coalition government in order to insure the fullest measure of cooperation in the work of European construction and home economies. Mr. Lloyd George dealt at some length with the Irish settlement, pointing out difficulties which must still be met before the Irish free state can be completely set up.

"The premier in referring to international conferences in general, said that if there had been a conference in July, 1914, there would have been no war in August, 1914. "No international conference ever set that Europe's problems," he said, "but they have advanced the cause of peace on earth. I have profound conviction and faith in the ultimate reason of mankind." Mr. Lloyd George was greeted with a storm of cheers when he appeared on the platform in Central Hall, where the conference was held. All the coalition members and liberal members of Parliament were present, including the Premier immediately being a discussion of the advantages accruing to the empire from the Irish settlement. "It is the first time for a century," he said, "that we have had an Irish government established with the wholehearted sanction of the people of Great Britain."

Mr. Lloyd George said that the Irish settlement had raised the prestige of Great Britain throughout the world and had deprived her enemies of "the force of that giant that we were always willing to give exalted advice to other nations, which we never followed ourselves." World trade, he said, "was in a worse plight than any present had ever known." He continued: "International confidence is the basis of international trade. The problem confronting Great Britain and the world must be summed up in one phrase—restoration of international confidence. "Order will restore confidence. We must establish real peace in the world." Mr. Lloyd George said he was looking to the Genoa conference to restore peace in the east. "If a general peace is established there must be great reduction in the cost of armaments," he added. "The British army is being reduced to below the power standard and the navy and the air forces was being reduced also. The nations must be prepared to take risks for peace."

Reuter's Dispatch Announces That Pope Benedict Is Dead

LONDON, Jan. 21.—A Berlin dispatch to Reuter's this afternoon said word had been received there that the Pope was dead.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Rome says that the consultation held by the physicians this forenoon owing to the fact that the Pope appeared to be sleeping caused a report to be circulated momentarily that Pope Benedict was dead, but this was officially denied.

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ROME, Jan. 21.—At 12:25 p. m.—All eyes for the recovery of Pope Benedict has been abandoned, the papal secretary of state, declared during the noon hour here. "Pope Benedict of this hour is delirious and unconscious."

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ICE IS A RARITY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIF. LOS ANGELES, CALIF., Jan. 21.—Freezing temperatures today caused what is believed to be the only accident of its kind that ever occurred in Los Angeles. A woman slipped and fell on an icy pavement and broke her wrist.

PROGRAM OF THE BOLL WEEVIL CONFERENCE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA SEED IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION N. C. STATE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM JANUARY 24, 1922. 2:00 Address of Welcome—Pres. W. A. Biddick. 2:15 The Boll Weevil Damage and Control Measures—Franklin Sherman. 2:30 The Effects of Phosphates and Other Fertilizing Materials Upon the Early Maturity of Cotton—W. F. Felt. 10:15 Cultural Methods for Cotton and the Place for Supplementary Crops Under Boll Weevil Conditions—Dean C. R. Williams. 10:30 Varieties of Cotton for Boll Weevil Conditions—R. S. Curtis, W. W. Shay and J. A. Aron. 11:45 Dinner (State College Dining Hall.) 1:00 The North Carolina Seed Improvement Association and Its Purpose—Zevo Moore. 1:20 The Possibilities of a Seed Improvement Association—E. W. Gaither, Discussion by Prof. C. L. Newman. 2:00 Economic Adjustments Under Boll Weevil Conditions—B. F. Brown and H. C. Taylor. 3:30 My Experience in Fighting the Boll Weevil—N. E. Winters.

on a commercial scale, the fact that some of them yield the producers a gross average of less than \$45 per acre after a whole year's expense and effort, means that something is wrong. Bread is recognized as our principal food—commonly called the "staff of life"—and the last crop of wheat brought the average North Carolina farmer only \$10.00 an acre. The production cost included full preparation, fertilizing and drilling, early summer harvesting and threshing, the use of valuable land, expensive machinery, teams and overhead expense. The total value of North Carolina's crops is but half their value of two years ago, and many farm products are below the 1914 prices. The farmer is up against it and presently cannot return until these essential producers get an equitable business like deal. They cannot trade without money or credit. A little human interest will help too.

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Cotton Market

CLOSING OF NEW YORK FUTURES MARKET NEW YORK, Jan. 21.—The New York futures market closed barely steady as follows: January 17.20; March 17.30; May 17.24; July 16.80; October 16.30; 18.65. WEBBER COTTON SEED ARRIVED HERE TODAY The solid crop load of Webber Long Staple Cotton seed from the farm of Dr. Coker at Hartsville, S. C., arrived in the city today and is at the yards of the Southern Cotton Oil Company on East Main Avenue. Mr. J. Flav Boss is in charge of the car. Farmers who have order this seed are asked to come and get same the first of the week if possible in order that the expense of unloading and starting the seed may be avoided. The price is \$2 per bushel plus the freight.

THE WEATHER

North Carolina, cloudy in interior, probably rain on the coast tonight, colder tonight, Sunday fair and colder.

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