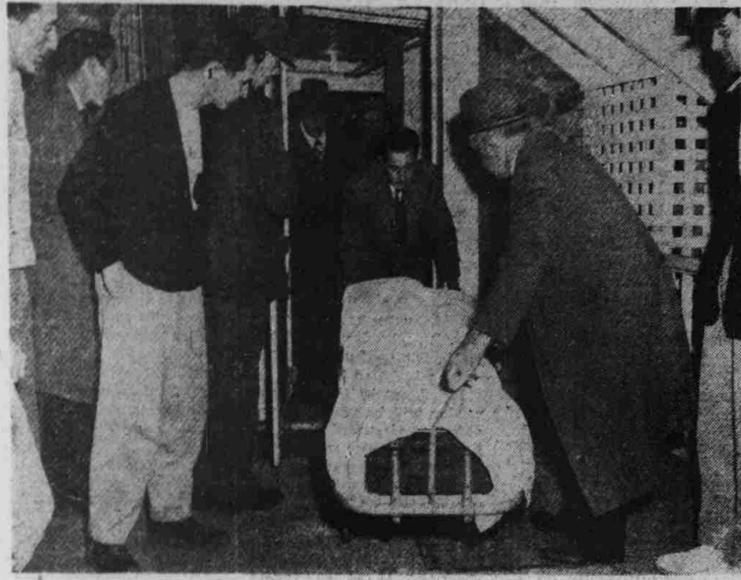


Smithey Commits Suicide; Case Closed—Police



Body Is Discovered In Woods; Shot Self Friday After Slaying

Forest Theater Area Scene Of Tragic End To Rooming House Killing Of G. L. Bennett

By Chuck Hauser

Carolina's Good Friday murder case turned into a murder-suicide yesterday morning when the body of Len Broughton Smithey, 30-year-old ex-graduate student, was found leaning against a tree in Battle Park just south of the Forest Theater.

Coroner H. J. Walker of Hillsboro said Smithey had committed suicide sometime late Friday afternoon shortly after police discovered the bullet-riddled corpse of undergraduate George Lemuel Bennett, Jr., in a private home at 210 Henderson Street.

Top Officials 'Regretful' Of 'Tragedy'

William D. Carmichael, Jr., and Chancellor Robert B. House yesterday afternoon in an official statement on the Smithey-Bennett suicide-murder considered the question whether the University is doing everything possible to prevent such things.

"All Chapel Hill is shocked and grieved by the tragedy of the past 24 hours. This tragedy prompts us to ask ourselves if the University is doing everything possible to prevent such things," they said.

"The most difficult of all educational work deals with the adjustment problems. Under post-war conditions these problems have increased; but we have been gratified with the results achieved by our staff."

The officials pointed out "we have reviewed all of our practices and procedures in this area. We believe them to be sound."

They pledged themselves "to continue our policy of employing the best available methods for doing this complex job."

Weizsacker Will Speak Tomorrow

Dr. Carl F. Von Weizsacker, professor of theoretical physics in the University of Göttingen, Germany, and member of the Max Planck Institute in Göttingen, who this spring is the Alexander White Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago, will speak here tomorrow day night in Gerrard Hall at 8 o'clock.

Dr. Weizsacker, who will visit Chapel Hill for three days and address various classes on the campus, was invited here by Dr. Arnold Nash, head of the Department of Religion, who was a fellow member of the Commission on the reform of German universities set up by the Allied Military Government.

The address Monday night will be open to the public. Dr. Weizsacker will take "The Beginning" and the "End" of the World" as his subject.

Tomorrow afternoon he will address a philosophy seminar on "The Philosophy of Science" and Wednesday afternoon he will speak at a mathematics seminar on "The Role of the Pythagorean Theorem in the Conceptual Structure of Physics."

Wednesday night he will discuss "The Evolution of Stars and Galaxies" at a Carolina-Duke Physics Colloquium at Duke University.

The rifle had been in Bennett's (See MURDER, page 4)

Flying Saucer?

HORSEHEADS, N. Y., April 8.—(AP)—"Flying (?) saucer" was found on a farm near this Southern New York village today.

It was silver-colored, four feet in diameter, saucer-shaped and made of heavy cardboard.

It had a radio tube, a couple of condensers, some wire and a charred "fuse."

But it obviously didn't come from other planet—or from Russia.

In fact, it was extremely doubtful that the device ever flew.

Photo Courtesy The Durham Morning Herald
THE TRAGIC GOOD FRIDAY killing of George L. Bennett, Jr., of Wadesboro was apparently solved yesterday when the body of Len Broughton Smithey of Chapel Hill and Arlington, Va., was discovered slumped against a tree just south of the Forest Theater and some 100 yards from Raleigh Street. Shown at left removing Bennett's body from the Henderson Street home where the shooting occurred are Orange County Coroner H. J. Walker (right, with Smithey's body on a stretcher in Battle Park at right are Joe

VanNoppen, Sanders Deliver New Promises For Campaign

Candidate Don VanNoppen promised a "positive, constructive" program of student government action and candidate John Sanders put forward a program to "help students get more out of their dollar," yesterday.

The two nominees, who face each other in Tuesday's runoff election for presidency of the student body, released campaign statements dealing with major planks of their platforms.

VanNoppen, University Party candidate who led the four-man presidential field in last Tuesday's voting, asserted that his program was "aimed at the things which he felt are needed, and which they feel can be accomplished by their government."

"During the past weeks," he said, "I have been trying to ascertain exactly what the students want. In this manner, I feel I have better equipped myself to serve as their spokesman."

"I feel that my program is representative of student opinion, and pledge myself to its fulfillment," VanNoppen declared.

Sanders, in releasing a five-point program aimed at aiding students' personal financial problems, said the program would continue to be one of his major goals in student government.

The program included a "vigorous and well-organized" effort to get tuition lowered, inauguration of the purchase card system of discounts to students, continued work to get improvements in price and quality of food at Lenior Hall, fairer pricing of textbooks at the Book Exchange/establishment of a student consumers union, and no increase in block fees without approval of the student body in a "genuine" referendum.

The consumers union would work to prevent "unfair" business practices, and to improve University services.

Both candidates have asserted

Legal Snag Bars Recall Of McCarthy By Badgers

MADISON, Wis., April 8.—(AP)—University of Wisconsin students planning to petition under state law for the recall of Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) ran into a legal snag tonight.

The parliamentarian of the Senate, Charles I. Watkins, said in Washington there is no way a state can recall a United States senator.

Watkins added that only the Senate itself can expel a member. This, he said, would require two-thirds majority of Senators voting, and a quorum of at least 49 members would have to be present.

A Wisconsin law providing machinery for a recall was cited by Lloyd A. Barbee of Memphis, Tenn., who announced that the University of Wisconsin chapter

of the Students for Democratic Action had voted to seek McCarthy's removal "because of his attacks on the State Department."

Under Wisconsin statutes, said Barbee, a recall petition would have to bear at least 316,535 signatures. This would represent 25 per cent of the total vote in the 1948 election for Governor.

Such a petition would require the Secretary of State to call a special election for McCarthy's Senate seat within 45 days. McCarthy's name would go on the ballot automatically. Other candidates would have to be nominated at special primaries before the recall election.

State officials refused to comment on the apparent conflict between the Senate rules and the Wisconsin statutes on recall.

Debaters Praised

University Debate Council Proves Great Asset To Whole School As Well As The Entire State

By Wink Locklair

Anyone who keeps an on activities in Chapel Hill might guess that the most traveled and victorious representatives of the University are to be found, depending on the season, in Kenan Stadium, Woollen Gymnasium, the Bowman Gray Pool, or on the campus' numerous tennis courts and playing fields.

Although the Athletic Department could cite impressive wins and numerous trips to New York, New Orleans, Texas, and other far-away places during recent years, the most widely-traveled group with the greatest number of consistent wins over the big outfits—Harvard, Yale, Army,

Northwestern and even Tennessee—has never found it necessary in competition to don a uniform more radical than a good Sunday suit.

As a matter of fact, they talk their way into a winning score. This small but exceedingly valuable asset to the University and to the state bears the rather staid and formal title of University Debate Council.

Through its president, Dave Pittman, a graduate student from Rocky Mount, the debaters accept bids to tournaments, inter-scholastic meets, and represent Carolina in other forensic activities throughout the United States at various times during the college year.

Debating has been a vital and important part of the University

Fewer Jobs, Coeds Hear Campbell Say

There will be less jobs for young men and women next June, not because of the economic situation, but because there are more and more college graduates, Miss Mary E. Campbell, job editor of Glamor Magazine and personnel director and secretary of the Conde Nast Publications, told coeds here yesterday.

"There will be an 18 percent increase in the number of graduates this June over last year's," she declared, "so the going will be tougher naturally. As far as business conditions go, except for some individual industries, indications are that there will be no appreciable change before 1951 anyway."

Miss Campbell was the principal speaker at a Job Conference for Women, which opened last night with a session in the Morehead Faculty Lounge and continued through this morning. The Conference is sponsored by the Coed Senate, the YWCA and the Placement Service.

Following Miss Campbell's talk the "Little Jack Puppet Show" was presented by Hannah Martin Davis and Maude Baynor Foy of the State Health Department, after which there was a social hour.

Smithey's Friends Perplexed By Act

By Don Maynard

Len Broughton Smithey, accused killer of George L. Bennett, Jr., University student murdered in his room on Henderson street Friday afternoon, was "just the type of person children would love," according to acquaintances of the 30-year old University graduate.

Smithey's life was one of continual struggle for an education. He held a thorough education above all else, and worked hard at the job, his closest friends declared.

When Smithey's parents moved out of Chapel Hill, he chose to remain here and finish his education. He was in his third year of high school then.

During his last few years of high school, he lived in basements, firing furnaces and accepting odd jobs in order to finance his way. Just before he joined the Army in 1940, Smithey came to live at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Pullen, of Ransom Street.

From 1938 until he left the Pullen household in 1946, Smithey was considered as "one of the family," Mrs. Pullen said.

"He ate here once in awhile, helped out scrubbing floors and called this his home," she related. "He was so gentle and kind, I can't understand how he could do the thing he did."

"Len Smithey wasn't responsible for anything he did," she declared.

In 1940, Smithey was one of the first from Chapel Hill to enlist in the Army. He felt so close to the Pullens that he named Mr. Pullen as his next-of-kin.

He first went to the Panama Canal Zone, according to Mrs. Pullen. Smithey returned to Chapel Hill for a furlough, then returned to action, assigned to the South Pacific theater.

Smithey saw action down there, among it the struggle for Guadalcanal. When he returned, Mrs. Pullen said, he was a changed man.

Before his hitch in the Army, Smithey had been known as a quiet, unassuming and intensive student. On his return, Mrs. Pullen said, he had changed to an irritable, moody and "a nervous wreck."

"It was two years ago that he turned against us," Mrs. Pullen told. "He thought we were working against him, while all the time we were trying to help him."

In 1946, not long after he had returned from the service, Smithey stopped speaking to Mrs. Pullen's daughter and son-in-law (See SMITHEY, page 4)

Huffman Is President

Robert O. Huffman of Morganton, outstanding industrial and religious leader in the state, was elected president of the North Carolina Business Foundation at a meeting of the directors of the Foundation here today and a \$2,000,000 goal was set to be raised this year. Half the has already been secured.

Huffman succeeds Robert M. Hanes, Winston-Salem banker, who is now serving with the ECA administration in Europe. Luther M. Hodges of Spray, well known industrialist, has been serving as acting president since the departure of Hanes last year. Hodges has recently accepted a European appointment with ECA.