

## Alleged Murderer of Gordon Yelverton Granted New Trial

### Supreme Court Finds Error in Two Instances

#### Errors Would Not Cause a Retrial in Other Types of Cases

George Frank Bazemore was granted a new trial by the North Carolina Supreme Court Wednesday.

Bazemore was convicted of first degree murder at the December term of the Greene County Superior court at Snow Hill. He was to have paid with his life for killing Gordon Yelverton of this town on November 5 as they were going to Wilson with a truck load of tobacco. The murder was one of the most brutal ever committed in the State. Bazemore who had been hanging around the Williamston tobacco sales during the season and had made himself handy and friendly with a number of people who handled and hauled tobacco around town and frequently went with them when they were hauling to other factories. On this occasion Bazemore sought the opportunity to go with Yelverton to Wilson with a large load of tobacco. Leaving Williamston early in the morning they passed through Greenville about sunrise and reached Farmville about 8 o'clock. When they got a few miles beyond that town they stopped and while on the ground about 20 yards from the truck Bazemore shot the boy in the back of the head, where he, from all indications, died instantly. Bazemore then took the truck load of tobacco, about 3,000 pounds, back to Farmville and sold it as his own. The conscience of the slayer must have gotten so heavy that he did not remain to get the truck nor the \$1,400 check for the tobacco. He sneaked back to this county where he remained under cover until he was arrested the Monday following the murder on Friday. He was arrested on the Cullipher farm near Everetts by Sheriff Roberson and his deputies and Policeman Daniels.

Bazemore made a most strenuous denial, but failed in every claim that he made to prove an alibi. He was positively identified by warehousemen of Farmville as well as by parties on the Farmville-Wilson highway who saw Bazemore and Yelverton together on the truck and only a few minutes later saw Bazemore alone on the same truck load of tobacco returning.

At the trial the jury quickly returned a first degree verdict and Judge A. M. Stack sentenced him to the electric chair to die on the 26 of January. Bazemore's counsel, Paul Frizzell, of Snow Hill, took an appeal, alleging several irregularities in the trial. All of his allegations were refused by the Supreme Court, but Chief Justice Stacy, who handed down the decision, declared there was an error committed when the clerk of the court was allowed to receive the verdict even though this had been agreed to between counsel on the part of both the State and defendant. The Supreme Court's report also held that an error had been made in the manner the jury was polled by the clerk. The clerk used language different in the poll than that in which the jury announced its verdict.

The Chief Justice stated that neither error would be material in any case other than those of a capital nature.

The next term of the Green County Superior court will be held in Snow Hill June 27 at which time Bazemore will again be tried for his life.

**At The STRAND THEATRE**  
SATURDAY  
Al Hoxie in "Rider of the Law" "Mama Behave"  
Comedy  
"Officer 444" Episode No. 5 and Vaudeville  
Always a Good Show

## Dr. T. A. Sykes to Talk at Methodist Church Sunday

Dr. T. A. Sykes, noted business manager of the North Carolina Christian Advocate and speaker, of Greensboro, will preach at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Dr. Sykes is a splendid speaker and you will enjoy hearing him.

Dr. Sykes, was for a number of years a preacher in the North Carolina Conference, giving up

his work in that field to become business manager of the Advocate.

The evening service will be held at 7:30. At 3 p. m. preaching service will be held at Holly Springs. It is hoped that Dr. Sykes will be able to hold the afternoon and evening services also.

The Woman's Missionary society of the church here will meet next Monday at 4 o'clock in the church.

## Officers Seize 2 Stills in Gawkw

### One Distiller Caught as He Tries to Hide Equipment

Township Constable, J. Raleigh Manning, of Jamesville, accompanied by Vance Price raided in the Free Union section Wednesday. In their first drive, they were just a little too fast for the moonshiners. They had no more than started their hunt when they were discovered by the sentinels on the outer posts who began firing warning guns.

The distillers rushed to job of putting out the fire and attempting to remove the still and liquor. They worked so slow, however for the officers saw the clouds of steam and smoke as the stillers poured water to put out the fire and cool the still so it could be removed before the officers reached there. Willie Bell Boston was trying to clear the spot of everything so he got trapped while two of his friends made their escape. The 80-gallon copper still, 15 gallons of liquor, several buckets, 20 barrels of beer were captured and destroyed.

Boston was carried before Justice Corey who gave him a preliminary hearing and bound him over to the recorder's court, the trial to be held April 5.

Later in the day the officers went into the Tarklin Neck section, near Dardens, where they found a 90-gallon still with buckets, axes and other necessary equipment. The officers also found and destroyed 1,000 gallons of beer at the still. The plant was not in operation at the time of the officers' visit.

## Debate Protection Question at School

The civics class of the eighth and ninth grades held a very interesting debate in chapel this morning before the students of the high school. The query was, "Resolved, that protective tariff is better than free trade." The affirmative, which was defended by Hibble Liverman and Josephine Harrison, brought out the following points: protects manufacturers, aids employment, gives higher wages, increases national wealth. The negative side, which was defended by A. J. Manning, Jr. and Ollie Marie Roberson, brought out the points: necessitates cost more, aids rich at expense of consumer, cause of immigration problem, cause of labor problems.

Both sides were very enthusiastic and presented their points in a very interesting manner. The negative side won by a large majority.

## Former Martin Man Dies in Florida Town

Mr. Billy Lanier, former Martin county man, died in Sanford, Florida a few days ago of heart failure. Mr. Lanier was employed by a railroad in that state, and on the day of his death he was going about his duties apparently in good health. Shortly after retiring, the heart attack came upon him and he died a few minutes later.

The deceased was born near Everetts, this county, in 1870. In 1890, he went to Georgia where he made his home at Tifton. Three years ago he removed to Sanford, Florida. Interment was made in the Tifton, Georgia cemetery. He is survived by a widow, two daughters, one son, two brothers and one sister.

## Robersonville School Notes

### Seniors Are Planning to Visit Raleigh Early Next Month

The tacky party staged on Thursday evening, March 10, was a great success. If laughter and applause mean anything, everyone present enjoyed the program of songs, stunts, and wit combats; the playlet; and the "Tacky Path Parade." Throughout the entire time lemon pies, peanuts, popcorn, lemonade, and various kinds of candies were sold. Perhaps the most fun was enjoyed when the contestants went along the "Tacky Path," seeking to gain the approval of the judges, Rev. Robert H. Harrell, Rev. E. W. Mason, and Mr. G. H. Cox. It was a funny sight to see the tacky men and women and boys and girls parading, some skipping, some hobbling, and some mincing their steps. The result was in general good, but, of course, as always, there were some who decidedly stood out as being more tacky than the others. Several were called back to the stage three different times. Finally with the help of the spectators the judges declared Miss Margaret Moore Everett winner of the prize for those under sixteen years of age and Mrs. R. I. Leake winner of the one for adults. The prizes—tack to the extreme—had to be worn by the winners. In this way forty-five dollars of the pledge made to the school by the parents-teachers association was easily and interestingly made. Thanks to all who helped to make the party a "go!"

Saturday, April 2, promises to be a gala day in the history of the Senior class. Supt. R. I. Leake is making plans for a very enjoyable trip to Raleigh. On that date the seniors, accompanied by some of the teachers and Mr. Leake, will leave Robersonville on a specially chartered bus and will be met in Raleigh by Colonel Fred A. Olds, Collector for Hall of History. Colonel Olds has kindly consented to show them points of interest in and around Raleigh. The State School for the Blind, the State's Prison, the Hospital for the Insane, and the Hall of History will, of course, be visited. As he stated it, the rest of the day will be spent in doing a score of other things. To all who know him the word "Olds" means a unique power of explanation and entertainment. Much, then, is in store for the seniors!

## Merchant Submarine is Caught with Liquor

Another way has been found to smuggle liquor into this county. A merchant submarine, carrying 1709 cases of liquor was seized Monday near Edisto Island on the South Carolina coast.

The submarine was apparently tended by the little British schooner "Vines" which had been hanging around for several days without proper lights. The seven men in charge and the craft were taken into custody. Government authorities are now investigating the case. It is expected that warrants, charging conspiracy, will be issued.

## Special Meeting of Everetts Woodmen

There will be a special meeting of the Everetts Modern Woodmen on Tuesday night, March 22 at 7:30 for the purpose of arranging the program for Monday night, March 23. Three new candidates are to be initiated into the big fraternity organization of M. W. A. on that night. From all reports there will be a few present from other lodges at this meeting to assist in the ceremony. All members of M. W. A. are cordially invited to attend.

## 6,000 Pounds of Poultry Loaded Here Yesterday

### Sales in Carolinas Run Around Two Million Dollars in 1926

Around 6,000 pounds of chickens were loaded here yesterday in the second poultry car to be stopped here within the past two weeks. Mr. Hunt, of Philadelphia, had charge of the car and he paid out \$1,216.86 to the farmers of this section for their poultry.

The car arrived here yesterday morning from Plymouth where little over a thousand pounds were loaded Wednesday. The passenger train carried the car out yesterday afternoon and left it at Hobgood where more chickens are being loaded. From there the car goes to Scotland Neck and then on the Philadelphia.

Mr. Hunt stated that his firm paid around two million dollars for poultry bought in the two Carolinas last year and that an increase in purchases is expected this year.

## Separates Man and His Wife-To-Be

What a dastardly crime it was when the Superintendent of Schools yesterday separated a man and his wife-to-be.

Very often a young man who wishes three contracts applies to the Superintendent of Schools. His first contract is to be engaged as principal of a school; his second is to be married to some fair dame; his third is to engage the services of the fair dame in the same school where he serves as principal. So it was a certain rich young graduate applied to the Superintendent stating that unless the school committee could use him and her, they could not get the services of either. The Superintendent showed little sympathy or humor for such. His committee had said "no man and wife business" for running schools. They feared the better half would run the school and the home and the head of the new family would collect the pay for running both. Or perhaps the committee feared a home-maker could not properly attend to the home and school, either the one of the other might suffer for attention. Or perhaps it was nepotism they feared. Anyway "orders is orders" and the Superintendent separated a man and his wife before they began to be. The young man went away sorrowing. He could not marry this year.

## Stella Coltrain Died Early This Morning

Stella, the 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Coltrain, of the Hardison Mill section, died this morning shortly after midnight from peritonitis. She was taken with an attack of appendicitis late last Monday and her parents were preparing to take her to the hospital the following day, but her condition prevented. Drs. Smithwick, of Jamesville, and Taylor, of Washington, were called but the young girl's condition was such that medical aid could be of no value, and it was after much intense suffering that the end came early this morning. Interment will be made in the Gettysburg cemetery near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Coltrain this afternoon at 2:30.

## Boys Win Over Pantego; Girls Lose to Belhaven

The local high school boys ended a most successful basketball season last Wednesday night when they defeated Pantego at Belhaven, 24 to 12. The game got off to a slow start in the first quarter, the score standing at the end of that period 3 to 2. In the last period, the locals made 15 of their 24 points, Durand Keel being leading scorer. The entire quint played a good brand of ball.

Just before the boys' game the local high school girls played Belhaven and lost to that team 27-23. A second game will be played by these two teams the latter part of next week when Belhaven visits here.

## County Sunday Schools Meet in Everetts, 20th

The Martin County Sunday schools are to meet at the Everetts Baptist church Sunday March 20 at 3:00 o'clock. The meeting, called by Mr. Roy D. Clark, educational director of the Roanoke Baptist association and Sunday school worker, will take up the organization of a County Sunday School union.

A good program has been planned and all members of Sunday schools in the county who are interested in the work are urged to attend. Similar meetings have been held in several other counties and organizations have been perfected.

## KIWANIANS HONOR CLAYTON MOORE AT MEET WEDNESDAY

### Honorary Degree Was Conferred Upon Judge Moore by the Club

A special luncheon was given by the Kiwanis Club Wednesday in honor of Clayton Moore, newly appointed full time superior court emergency judge.

A number of people had been invited to attend and take part in the program.

The menu consisted of chicken a la Hambone in court; golden quality of mercy rice; legal tender chips; brief rolls; beverage a la prohibition; chocolate bars of justice; and Australian ballot wafers.

Rev. C. O. Pardo had been appointed by the president to conduct the meeting, and he led with a number of Kiwanis songs.

After the luncheon, Kiwanian John D. Biggs was called upon to confer the honorary Kiwanian degree on the new judge; and he was followed by Mayor Coburn, who conveyed the town's congratulations to Judge Moore.

Judge Francis D. Winston, of Windsor, was then called, and he made a great short speech, reviewing old acquaintances with the Moore family in the years gone by. He welcomed the young judge upon his entry into the arena of the judiciary and bade him Goodspeed, declaring that he found pleasure in seeing young men rising and marching in the ranks that were thinning by the passing of men of his own class. He declared it was a joy to have a heart capable of rejoicing to see the mantle of responsibility and honor passed to young men rather than to sulk in jealousy. The speech seemed to bring the judge back to a younger day, when the vigor of youth was in full bloom.

E. S. Peel, president of the club, spoke on behalf of Kiwanis, for which he extended the best wishes to the new judge and assured him of the appreciation of the honor conferred on him.

The next speaker was Congressman Lindsay Warren, of Washington, who reviewed his intimate acquaintance with Judge Moore, in school, in politics, in friendship; attesting to his honor and ability.

Judge Clayton Moore was then called upon, and with a heart filled with gratitude and emotion expressed his appreciation for the friendship of his home folks who had so honored him on the occasion. He pledged every consideration and attention to the responsible position he now holds.

## Sunday Services at the Baptist Church

"The Life That I Now Live" are the scripture words used at this church Sunday morning. At 7:30 o'clock in the evening, the subject will be, "Godliness is Profitable."

Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock the Martin County Baptist Sunday schools are called to convene in special session at the Baptist church in Everetts. Since Everetts is so near by, and the roads good, it will be easy for a number of people to attend.

The members and friends of this church will kindly keep in mind the Wednesday evening Bible lectures. The studies now are on the books of the New Testament, and the particular book for the coming week is Galatians. It is but two weeks now until our revival meeting begins. Every one is asked to keep this date in mind. It will begin on the first Sunday in April and close on Easter Sunday.

## Dunbar's Revue Plays to Large House Last Night

The Dunbar's musical revue was witnessed by a capacity house at the Strand theatre here last night. Tonight Harry Langdon in "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," an outstanding screen comedy will be shown along with "The Man Who Died Last" staged by the Dunbar troupe and another capacity house is expected.

Those who have seen the comedy, pronounce it to be the best in years and that it is easily worth the price of admission for the entire show.

## Herman Roebuck Dies from Rheumatism

Mr. Herman Roebuck, one of the leading farmers of Cross Roads, died last week from an attack of rheumatism.

Mr. Roebuck had a rather severe attack in January, but apparently was almost well when he relapsed during the recent big snow and grew worse until he died. He was in his 39th year, and leaves a widow who was Miss Barnhill, of Pitt county, and six children.

Interment was made in the Jesse Roebuck grave yard near Robersonville.

## Local Masons Meet Tuesday

There will be a regular communication of Skewarkee Lodge, No. 90, A. F. and A. M., Tuesday night, March 22 at 7:30 o'clock. Work in the second degree. All masons in good standing are urged to be present. Visiting brethren are cordially invited to attend.

## Baptists Win Local Tourney

### Defeat Episcopalians by 15 to 12 Score Last Wednesday

By JACK

The Baptists won the leather whistle and the title of more-or-less champions in the finals of the tournament among representatives of the four churches in town by defeating the Episcopalians Wednesday night, 15-12. This game provided a better brand of basketball than any of the previous ones and was witnessed by the largest crowd of the tourney.

Grimes, for the winner, was high scorer with 7 points, 2 field goals and 3 fouls; Garland Anderson scored 3 field goals for 6 points, and Harrell the other 2. Gus Harrison failed to score but was all over the court after the ball. Julian Anderson stopped the "pooish" whenever they got in striking distance of the basket.

For the Episcopalians, Cortez Green counted 3 goals from the floor for 6 points; and Francis Barnes, Joe Godard, and Charlie James each scored once for the other 6 points. Francis Barnes made the longest shot by ringing the hoops from the center of the court. Pete Fowden, at guard, played better basketball in this game than he did in the other one, but his basketball tactics were not as effective as the old "hit-the-line-hard" game he played last week. Pete was alright, though, and don't forget it. He spilled many a nice play of the Baptists around the goal he was so jealous of. Murt Stubbs played one quarter for Pete, but that wasn't the reason the Baptists won, for he held them as well as Pete did.

The Baptists simply won by superior passing and luck, two important factors in any basketball game. Again the "cash customers" were satisfied, and \$23.30 was added to the fund for building a baseball diamond for the boys of the town. The fund now totals \$46.55.

## Services at the Church of the Advent Sunday

Rev. C. O. Pardo, Rector  
10:00 Church School.  
11:00 Morning Prayer and Sermon.  
3:00 Holy Trinity Mission.  
7:45 Evening Prayer and Sermon.

On Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 there will be a special prayer service at the home of Mrs. F. U. Barnes. On Wednesday afternoon the prayer service will be at the home of Mrs. Fannie Carstarphen and on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Irene Smith. All women of the church are urged to attend the meeting nearest their home if they unable to attend them all.

On Friday morning at 10:30 the United Thank offering will be made at the celebration of the Holy Communion.

On Sunday morning the sermon subject will be "Predestination" and the sermon subject for Sunday night will be "Is there a Hell?"

## To Elect Superintendent at Meeting Next Month

At its next meeting, the first Monday in April, the Martin County Board of Education will elect superintendent of schools for this county.

## OFF TO TEACHERS MEET IN ROBERSONVILLE

Superintendent L. H. Davis of the local schools and ten of his teachers left shortly after noon today for Robersonville where the last teachers' meeting of the year is being held this afternoon.

## DURHAM SELLS 19 MILLION LBS. TOBACCO FOR \$22.90

The Durham tobacco market closed last week after selling nearly 19,000,000 pounds, which was nearly 2,000,000 over last year. The price this season, however, was considerably lower, being \$26.56 last year and only \$22.90 this year.

## Farmer of Near Oak City Killed by Pair Mules

### Samuel B. Sutton Found Dead in Small Wood Late Yesterday

Samuel B. Sutton, a young man who lived with his father, George S. Sutton on the Keel farm, one mile from Oak City, was killed by a pair of mules late yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Sutton was plowing in a field when he broke his plow about a half hour before sunset. He unhooked his team from the plow and fastened the trace chains to the hames. He mounted the back of one of the mules and started to the house and while passing through a small wood, he either fell or was thrown off the mule. One of the chains caught around his right leg and he was dragged two or three hundred yards. About twenty minutes later he was found. The lifeless body of the young man was still firmly fastened to the team by the trace chains and the mules had almost exhausted themselves trampling on the body in an effort to get away.

When the body was examined, it was found that his neck was broken which possibly occurred when he first fell from the team, one thigh, one wrist, his hip and one jaw were also broken and bruised. His back was badly bruised, it appearing that he was dragged in that position.

Mr. Sutton was nearly 25 years old, and he with his family moved to the Keel farm from Columbia a year ago.

His father, George S. and mother, Elizabeth Sutton with ten brothers and sisters survive him.

There were 23 children born in the family, the father being only 52 while the mother is 47. They were married 20 years ago. Of the 23 children 13 are now dead.

The funeral and burial will be in Tyrrell county, near Columbia, this afternoon.

## Town Team Defeats Smithfield Guards

By JACK

The Williamston Town Team is claiming the championship of independent eastern Carolina basketball teams by reason of its defeat of the Smithfield National Guard here Tuesday night in the hardest-fought game seen here this year. An extra 5-minute period was necessary to decide the winners, as the count was knotted at 27 all at the end of the regular playing period. The final score was 31-29. Howard Gaylord, for the locals, shooting a field goal and two fouls, while Captain Ellington, for the visitors, counted once from scrimmage, in the extra period.

The game was remarkably clean, considering the speed with which it was played. Jimmy Brown gave the best exhibition of floor work seen here this season and divided scoring honors with Howard Gaylord. The Williamston guards are also due a lot of credit for the excellent defense they put up. Hugh B. Anderson was back in uniform for the town team and demonstrated that he hadn't forgotten all he knew about the game while he was in Tennessee. Lyman Britt played his usual good game at center but failed to count as many of his long shots as he usually does.

For the guardsmen, Captain Ellington was easily the outstanding player. It was due mainly to his efforts that the guardsmen managed to tie the score in the second half, after Williamston had gotten off to a 14-11 lead at the end of the first period.

All in all, it was a fine game; a fine ending for a fine season; and it is to be hoped that the town will be as well represented in the sport next season.

## Snow Cause of Many Problems in Schools

The heavy snow of a few days ago is all gone, but it left a score of problems in school circles of the county. It was debated as to whether "snow" could be written on the register for the days lost or to alter the registers so as to take in the bad days and yet show a full school month. Another question yet unsettled deals with the payment of salaries during the days of the snow. To pay the board bills of the teachers has been suggested as one way of settling another question brought about by the snow. The Robersonville schools are solving the question by making up the lost time on Saturdays. The schools of that town held classes last Saturday, and it is understood another day will be made up Saturday of next week. The payment of salaries or board bills during the time school was suspended is a matter to be settled by the local committees, and when time is made up on Saturdays the boards have to pass their approval.