

## DELLINGER'S STORY BRANDED FALSE BY THE ROSS FAMILY

Claim Story Told By Mrs. Starr in New York is "Ridiculous"—North Carolinians Watch Outcome of Claims With Interest.

New York, June 7.—The half century old mystery of the kidnaping of Charley Ross was under a revived cross fire of claims and denials of solution today.

Mrs. Pierre C. Starr, of New York, presented in a newspaper today a claim that she had found the missing Ross in the person of a rugged southerner who had adopted the name of W. C. McHale. Mrs. Starr claimed to be a cousin of the late Christian K. Ross, of Germantown, Pa., wealthy father of the child kidnaped in 1874. Mrs. Starr brought the man she claims is Charley Ross to New York from North Carolina.

Members of the Ross family, now living in Philadelphia, immediately branded her story as "ridiculous," Walter L. Ross, a brother of the kidnaped boy, said:

"She is an imposter and this is not the first time she had tried the same trick."

McHale, or Julius Coleman Dellinger as he also was known in North Carolina, declared he wanted no money, but only his birthright and said he knew he had been abducted as a child. He told of having been carried through the south in his youth by a wandering tinker and gunsmith, who went by various names.

This man, McHale said, admitted to him that he was not his father and promised some day to tell him who he was, but died without fulfilling his promise. One of the theories of Charley Ross' abduction was that he had been carried off by peddlers. Two such men on whom suspicion was centered were caught and fatally wounded while robbing a house. One of them said the other could solve the Charley Ross mystery. Both died of gunshot wounds before anything more definite could be told.

Christian K. Ross spent \$60,000 in searching for the boy before he died in 1897. In a book about the search, he said some 300 children had been put forward as his son. Since his death the solution of the mystery has been claimed many times, but each claim proved without foundation.

Mrs. Starr said she had affidavits from many persons who had known the present claimant since boyhood, telling of incidents which coincided with the few clues unearthed after the kidnaping.

Charlotte, N. C., June 7.—North Carolinians today watched with interest the outcome of claims of Julius Coleman Dellinger, also known as W. C. McHale to the birthright of the long lost Charlie Ross.

The case has attracted considerable attention in this section since the first claim was put forward several months ago, when Dellinger, a Denver carpenter, arranged a meeting with J. F. Gaffney, of Shelby, N. C., a man who has made affidavit since to remembering a wandering peddler years ago named McHale, who had a woman and child with him.

McHale and the woman came to Gaffney, S. C., the Shelby man said, bringing the child. It was shortly after the Ross kidnaping and a marked similarity was noticed between the child and pictures of the boy Ross. Just when an investigation of the McHales was starting, they disappeared.

While still a mere child, although deserted by the McHale pair, he added the name of Dellinger while staying with a family of that name.

Since the claims were advanced, several newspapers in the state and two of them announced they could say Dellinger and Ross were the same.

Mrs. Pierre C. Starr, along with her husband, spent several weeks in the state gathering evidence and left about two weeks ago by automobile with Dellinger for Philadelphia and New York to make the claim.

Dellinger, while long a laborer, speaks with a certain knowledge of affairs and was the most energetic of all in gathering evidence to support him on the trip east.

The town of Denver, about 30 miles from here, has only a hundred or so inhabitants.—Asheville Citizen.

### THE CHIGGER

"If a chigger were bigger, as big as a cow  
And his digger had vigor like a sub-soiler plow,  
Oh, say! Picknicker, where'd you be now?"

In districts where they abound there is no more irritating insect pest than the "chigger," which attaches itself to one's skin and sucks the blood, leaving a swollen and sore spot which causes annoyance for days. People who have found that when working in their gardens, walking in the woods, or trying to picnic outdoors they were often attacked by these tiny insects, will be glad to know that the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture has assigned one of its scientific staff to study the life history of chiggers and undertake control experiments in the field.

Press Want Ads will sell it.

## Western N. C. Federated Chambers of Commerce

Program of activities adopted in Asheville on May 21, 1926:

Purpose of organization as stated by President C. P. Rogers—"Purpose of this organization is to unite all of the constructive forces and agencies of Western North Carolina in one forward movement in which all cities and counties may participate. Purpose of this meeting is to consider a definite program for the ensuing year."

(1) Motor Tours—Publish booklet and map giving detailed information concerning all motor tours in Western North Carolina which will be open to all-weather travel during the current year.

Committee: F. Roger Miller, Asheville, chairman; Chas. Lynch, Tryon; E. C. Kingsbery, Franklin; E. L. Withers, Waynesville; C. M. Sturkey, Lenoir.

(2) Housing and Entertainment—Local organizations will assemble data concerning needs and opportunities in

respective communities to be presented to hotel and financial corporations for the purpose of encouraging the building of hotels and inns. Federation members to exchange information concerning special events and other entertainments of interest to summer visitors.

(3) Exhibits—All members to cooperate in assembling a representative display of products and resources to be exhibited at the Southern Exposition in New York next October.

Committee: F. L. Adolph, Lenoir, chairman; H. P. Corwith, Saluda; S. T. Henry, Spruce Pine; Horace Kephart, Bryson City; F. Q. Boyer, Asheville.

(4) Co-operative Advertising—Committee to prepare, publish and distribute cooperative advertising literature: G. A. Abbott, Marion, chairman; J. E. Stubbs, Hendersonville; C. E. Vaughn, Black Mountain; H. E. Buchanan, Sylva; L. F. Jackson, Burnsville.

(5) Fish and Game—All member organizations to cooperate in restocking the lakes and streams of Western North Carolina and secure

the support of officials and property owners in a general campaign of fish and game conservation.

(6) Forests—To be made special order of business at next meeting, which Forestry officials will be invited to attend.

(7) Extension—Committee appointed to cooperate with new organizations and to increase affiliation with Western North Carolina Federation: F. H. Coffey Lenoir, chairman; R. L. Sandidge, Bryson City; W. R. Mehaffey, Tryon; T. A. Wilson, Saluda; J. E. Stubbs, Hendersonville.

(8) Real Estate Developments—Federation urges the organization of Real Estate Boards and the adoption of standard code of ethics in every county engaged in real estate development.

(9) National Advertising—A special order of business for consideration at next meeting when detailed plans are to be presented.

(10) Inter-City Relations—Federation to promote Inter-City meets and special events designed to promote better understanding and cooperation between the communities of the

mountain region.

\*Next meeting—Lenoir, July 28, 1926.

## Fined For Not Fighting Fire

R. G. Wheaton, district forester, returned from Black Mountain yesterday where he had gone to attend the trial of John Wilson, negro, who refused to fight forest fires after being summoned by a warden and instructed to assist during the forest fire epidemic some time ago.

The negro was tried before Magistrate W. Goodson and was fined \$8.15 for refusing to assist in time of stress. According to the law it was shown that men over 18 years of age and under 45 years of age, tools stock and other means of assistance are subject to call by forest wardens at such times. Several hundred men volunteered and were drafted into service some time ago when the big fires were raging near Old Fort and Ridgecrest.—Asheville Citizen.

Press Want Ads for quick action.



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into Mole hills*



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## No-Nox and Carbon are Power Twins

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*GULF No-Nox Motor Fuel* not only withstands the high compression of the modern automobile engine—but also the added higher compression caused by carbon deposits on the walls and piston head which increases with the age of the car,—clicks and knocks are eliminated—greater efficiency is accomplished—followed by more power and greater mileage.

## This Guarantee goes with it

*GULF No-Nox Motor Fuel* is Non-Noxious, Non-Poisonous and no more harmful to man or motor than ordinary gasoline—that it contains no dope of any kind—that the color is for identification only—and will not heat in summer driving.

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