



The Franklin Press

VOLUME XLII

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1927

NUMBER THIRTY-SEVEN

Macon County Will Build New Court House and Jail Combined

ROBINSON LOT SITE OF NEW 3-STORY BUILDING

County Commissioners Decide to Build New Court House and Jail Combined—Robinson Lot Site of New Building—structure to Be Three Stories High—Architect Employed—Building to Be Adequate for Many Years.

Macon county is to have a new court house and jail, the two to be combined in the same building. This was decided by the Board of County Commissioners at a called meeting on Monday.

At the same time, the commissioners entered into an agreement to purchase a part of the "Dixie Hall" property for the site of the new building. The purchase will actually be made as soon as bonds are issued and sold.

Present plans are to have the new building under construction early in December of this year. The commissioners, in the same order providing for the new court house and jail, set the first Monday in December as the date for letting the contract for the new building, and fixed the date for selling the bonds as the first Monday in November, "or as early as decided upon by the commissioners."

The exact amount of bonds necessary will not be known until the architect has completed plans and estimates.

The commissioners, after what was reported to have been several days of negotiations, fail to agree on the proposition, C. H. McClure voting against, with C. R. Cabe and S. P. Pierson being recorded as favoring the project.

On this matter, the minutes read: "Vote taken as follows: "For building Court House and Jail: "C. R. Cabe "S. P. Pierson "Against building Court House: "C. H. McClure."

The property purchased for the new public building contains slightly more than one acre, and fronts on two streets, Iotla and Church; also on the Public Square. It is that portion of the "Dixie Hall" property lying north of the northern boundary of the public square, and is described, in the order of the commissioners, as "fronting 82.7 feet on the Public Square; 267 feet on Iotla street; 172.8 feet on Church street; then with the old Sam L. Rogers lot 243 feet; then with the remaining "Dixie Hall" property 88.8 feet; then 24 feet to the beginning, as shown by plot made by W. N. Sloan."

How the new building will face is a matter left in abeyance, pending the architect's recommendations.

James J. Baldwin, of Asheville, has been chosen as the architect to draw the plans for the new structure. Mr. Baldwin drew the plans for the new court house at Murphy, and for a number of other public buildings in the southeast.

Commissioners Cabe and Pierson last week inspected a number of court houses and jails, in separate buildings and combined, with a view to getting ideas and suggestions, and avoiding mistakes made by other counties. Among the places visited for this purpose were Murphy, Athens, Ga., Winder, Ga., Gainesville, Ga., and Atlanta.

The new structure, under present plans, will be a three-story affair, with the jail on the third floor. An elevator will run from the witness room to the jail, thus making for convenience during court terms. Provision will be made for the jailer and his family to live on the third floor.

The combination of jail and court house in a single building, it is pointed out, will save the additional ground needed for a jail, save a roof, make for convenience, and make it more difficult for prisoners to escape.

The new building will be equipped with steam heat, lights, water, etc. Present plans call for a building about 60 by 110 feet.

The property on which the new building is to be placed was purchased from J. S. Robinson and Mrs. Kate Robinson Hobart.

Thus the long agitation for a new

LISTEN, LADY AT AUDITORIUM

Musical Comedy Sponsored By P. T. A. to Be Staged September 16—Local Talent in Various Roles.

"Listen, Lady," a delightful musical comedy, dealing with romance and adventure, and full of laughter-provoking situations, will be given Friday night, September 16, at the Franklin school auditorium, by the local Parent-Teacher association. The play will begin promptly at 8:15 o'clock.

Ten principal roles and several minor ones are played by local people, while some two dozen young girls will make up the three choruses for the musical parts of the production.

Good acting, under the direction of a professional coach, lots of attractive music, and the interesting and laughable situations that abound in the play, are expected to make "Listen, Lady" one of the most successful local talent production ever given here.

The P. T. A. has been hard at work in preparation for this production, and expect to realize a considerable sum, to be used in helping to equip the school library.

The school auditorium, officials of the organization believe, will be well filled when the play begins at 8:15 Friday evening.

Following is the cast of characters: Phil Osepher, a small town merchant—J. Frank Ray.

Betty Osepher, his daughter—Miss Freda Siler.

Lady McLaurin, who's in love with Johnnie Green—Miss Carolyn Rogers.

Johnnie Green, tired of the old home town—Robert Johnston.

Tom Tempest, a "sure-fire" salesman—Thomas Johnston.

Bob White, a fashionable young man—Reid Rogers.

Lavinia Sinclair, engaged to Bob—Miss Elizabeth Cunningham.

Gloria Ralston, interested in Johnnie—Miss Cornelia Smith.

Norma Laurince, an actress—Miss Cornelia Cunningham.

Cindy Randolph, a millionaire spinster—Mrs. Neville Sloan.

Gus Hasty, Main street Merchant—George Carpenter.

James, the butler—George Carpenter.

The chorus girls will be Misses Cornelia Cunningham, Myra Stribling, Katherine Franks, Nell Hudson, Ada Trotter, Margaret McGuire, and Virginia McGuire.

Composing the "Uncle Sam" chorus will be Misses Margaret Slagle, Grace Baird, Gracie Hyatt, and Alma Peck.

And little Misses, Betty Rogers, Betty Leach, Betty Slagle, Fannie May Sherrill, Elsie Newman, Meta Peck, Thelma Clouse, and Beatrice Mashburn will make up the "Kitty Cat" chorus. Miss Mattie Angel will be at the piano for the music.

The auditorium now is equipped with comfortable seats.

MASKED MEN KIDNAP NEGRO

From Car of Deputy Sheriff Negro Whipped and Told to Leave Town.

John Daley, 15-year-old negro boy, taken Tuesday night from the automobile of Derrell Ashe, taxi driver and deputy sheriff, Wednesday morning told a story of having been blindfolded, taken out Highway No. 28 a distance he judged to be about five miles, and whipped, with what he believes was a strap. He was then told, he says, to not let the sun go down on him here.

Daley, in company with three other negro boys, was in the taxi of Ashe when, according to the latter a big car, the make of which he is not certain of, drove around him, just in front of the Creamery here, and a big man, masked, jumped from the car, threw a gun in Ashe's face, and, with an oath, told him to "sit still," a command he proceeded to comply with.

After the gun was thrown in his face, Ashe, watching the man with the gun, did not see what transpired, he said, the next thing he knew, the four negro occupants of the car being gone. Three of them returned, one to tell of having seen two men take Daley toward the kidnapping car, and one to say he had seen the men place Daley in the car.

Ashe then proceeded out No. 28, he said, but was unable to get in sight of the fast moving car.

Daley insists he does not know what he was whipped for, and claims he does not recall having been told. Current report Wednesday morning was to the effect that he had been heard to make impudent remarks to white girls here. That, however, does not jibe with the character given him Tuesday night by the manager of the local hotel in which he has been employed and by others, who described him as a polite, respectful negro.

Daley and three other boys, Booker T. Ingram, Charlie Hayes and Roscoe Gibson were on their way to Gibson's to have some music, they said, and stopped in a local drug store to buy some victrola records.

Two taxi drivers, they stated, Rufe Cunningham and Ashe, asked if they wanted a taxi, and Ashe agreed to take the four to Gibson's house, about a half mile from the center of town, for 25 cents. He explained that he was going in that direction anyway, and could take them for that low price for that reason, the negroes said.

When the negroes saw the masked men alight, they jumped, they say. Neither Daley, sitting in the front seat with Ashe, nor the other three, saw any gun thrown in Ashe's face, they stated, though they would not say that this did not occur.

Opinion Tuesday night was to the effect that it might have been men from Daley's former home in East Tennessee come here to get him, but the order that the negro leave here appeared to kill that theory of the case.

Daley Wednesday morning said he had done nothing, but that he expected to comply with the order to leave.

He was loath to talk, saying finally that the men had told him they would kill him if he told of the affair. He appeared to know the identity of his floggers, but afraid to reveal their names.

He and his parents Wednesday went before Justice of the Peace George Carpenter to "make a statement," but they failed to give any names or furnish any evidence, Mr. Carpenter said, leaving him powerless to issue warrants. Sheriff C. L. Ingram also indicated that he knew of no further move he could make.

He, with a party, Tuesday night traveled several miles out the highway taken by the car, but failed to find the floggers.

Daley, he said, got back to town about 12:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

OFFICER'S SHOT WOUNDS MAN

Oliver, Norton, Norris, Shepherd and Holt Under Bond—Woman in Car—Many Conflicting Statements.

Cecil Holt is in a local hospital, with what is described as "a large gunshot wound in the left thigh," Deputy Sheriff Frank Norton, Raleigh Norris presumably acting as a deputy at the time, and Charlie Oliver, constable in Franklin township, are under bonds of \$400 each on a charge of an assault with a deadly weapon, "to wit, a pistol," and Holt and Harry Shepherd are also under bonds of \$400 each on charges of an assault with a deadly weapon, "to wit, an automobile," on L. M. Henson, as the sequel of an occurrence on the Georgia highway, about 10 miles south of Franklin, last Saturday night about 9:30 o'clock.

Here is what occurred, according to Shepherd:

Shepherd, his wife and Holt were driving toward Franklin. The officers had barricaded the highway, using two cars. The Shepherd car ran into both the cars used by the officers, whereupon someone in the party of officers began shooting, two bullets piercing the car and one taking effect in Holt's thigh. All three occupants were on the front seat.

The officers searched the Shepherd car, failed to find either liquor or a gun, brought the trio to town, Shepherd handcuffed. Arrived here, Holt was placed in the hospital, as was also Mrs. Shepherd, who was being brought here for medical attention, and Shepherd was released. Oliver did the shooting, Shepherd said. Norton and Norris were with him.

And here is what occurred, according to the officer's statement:

Norton, Norris, and Oliver were looking for a liquor car, but did not have the road blocked, one of the two cars, in fact, being 48 feet further up the road than the other. Shepherd and his wife came along, coming toward Franklin, were stopped, recognized, and told to go ahead. The Shepherd car then returned toward Georgia, and came back with Holt in the car. The car struck both officers' cars, and Shepherd then began to shoot, whereupon Oliver returned the fire. Oliver admitted that it was he who fired the shots into the Shepherd car, it is said.

They brought Shepherd to town handcuffed, the officers say, but did not simply turn him loose. Instead they released him on the statement of Dr. F. Angel that he would be responsible for his appearance here Monday afternoon at the preliminary hearing.

The officers admit that they found no liquor and no gun in the car or on the persons of either Shepherd or Holt.

Sunday, Shepherd swore out the warrant for Olixer, who is not a deputy, but township constable in Franklin township, Deputy Norton, and Norris, who is presumed to have been deputized for that particular time by Norton. (Sheriff C. L. Ingram was out of town at the time, and knew nothing of the occurrence until Sunday morning.) They were sworn out before Justice of the Peace John E. Rickman.

The warrants charge an assault with a pistol.

Monday morning, Norton swore out a warrant against Shepherd and Holt, charging them with an assault with a deadly weapon, an automobile, on Henson, who was said to have been present at the time of the shooting. Another warrant charges Shepherd with reckless driving and being drunk on the public highway.

These latter warrants were taken out before Justice of the Peace George Carpenter, and the two preliminary hearings were called for 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, with Justices Rickman and Carpenter sitting together.

Due to the absence, however, of Holt, a defendant in one case, and

MARCUS E. COZAD DIED AT ANDREWS

Came to Western North Carolina 40 Years Ago From North—Was Prominent Man.

Marcus E. Cozad, of Andrews, well known throughout Western North Carolina, and the father of the late Henry O. Cozad, of Franklin, died at his home in Andrews last Friday morning, at the age of 82. Mrs. Mrs. Cozad had died less than a month before.

The funeral services were held in Andrews Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and the remains were taken to Mr. Cozad's former home, Cleveland, Ohio, for interment. Members of Mr. Cozad's immediate family are buried in Cleveland.

Although Mr. Cozad had been in a weakened condition for many months prior to his death, it was only during the few days just before his death that he had been seriously ill. Death resulted from heart disease.

Surviving are one daughter, Miss Eleanor Cozad, who had made her home with her parents in Andrews for the past year or two; and two granddaughters, Misses Margaret and Mildred Cozad, of Franklin.

He was the last male member of his family, his only son having died here a few years ago, and his only grandson, Mark, having died in Franklin last November. Mr. Cozad was the third member of his immediate family to pass away in the course of less than a year.

Mr. Cozad came to Western North Carolina some 40 years ago, and became one of the largest timber owners in this part of the country. During recent years his health had been such as to preclude his being active, but he was always alert and interested in all about him. Both he and Mrs. Cozad took a deep interest in community enterprises in their home town of Andrews. They had many friends here, too.

To few persons, perhaps, was it given to know Mr. Cozad intimately, but those few found in him a man of keen intellect, deep sympathy, unbounded optimism and faith in God, and spotless character. He was a man who commanded respect and radiated inspiration.

The courage of the man in illustrated in a remark he made here shortly after Mrs. Cozad's death. He was barely strong enough to be about, his partner of many decades had passed on, and intimate friends knew he wondered why he was left.

And yet he remarked that he had little strength, but—with a smile—"I guess I am good for another 14 or 15 years yet."

CARPENTER BUYS DALRYMPLE HOME

George Carpenter last Saturday purchased the George Dalrymple property, on Iotla street, from M. D. Billings, Dr. W. A. Rogers, Theo Munday, John H. Thomas and W. L. Higdon. The property includes the house, former home of Mr. and Mrs. Dalrymple, and about one acre of land. The price paid was \$5,000, according to Mr. Carpenter.

Mr. Carpenter and family will move into the new home the first of next month. It is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sanders and family.

A witness in the other, the cases were continued until September 26 at 10 o'clock. Each of the five is now at liberty under bond of \$400.

At the hearing Monday, Shepherd and Holt were represented by R. D. Sisk; the three officers, by George B. Patton.

The occurrence has created widespread interest here, and no little feeling the officers coming in for considerable criticism, and a crowd that will pack the court house is expected at the hearing 10 days from now.