

FRED ANDERS SHOT AND KILLED BY "MILT" PRESNELL ON BULL CREEK

AUST. PRESNELL IN JAIL AND MILT SOUGHT BY POSSE OF DEPUTIES

Funeral of Fred Anders Tuesday at
Grapevine

Perhaps the greatest tragedy to occur in Madison County for many years was that Sunday afternoon, May 2, 1926, when Milt Presnell shot and killed almost instantly Fred Anders in the Bull Creek section of Madison County.

We call the tragedy great for the reason that no plausible reason for the shooting can be assigned and, up to the time of the shooting, Presnell and Anders had apparently been on friendly terms and the two families were friendly and intermarried, the dead boy's brother having married Presnell's sister. The two families lived less than a mile apart and almost in sight of Grapevine church.

The writer of this article visited the Anders home Tuesday the day the Anders boy was buried, saw the corpse and personally interviewed the mother of Anders, his sisters and other members of the family.

Presnell's sister, Mrs. Jeter Anders, was also present and talked freely of the affair.

Mrs. Anders had quite a big family when her husband, "Boss" Anders left her twelve years ago. She has had a hard struggle to support the family and one by one of the children has died until now only four are left. Those surviving are Mrs. Pearl Rice of the County, Mrs. Bessie Simpson of Greenville, S. C., Mrs. Jeter Anders and Charlie Anders. Fred, age 16, was between the last two and was well grown, mature and was the main support of the family. While there were at least six eye witnesses to the shooting, only one was not connected with either family and that was George Ogle, age 15. Seeking all the disinterested information possible we sought out George Ogle and questioned him specifically as to what he knew about the affair. George, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ogle, is a bright looking lad and talked intelligently and he is our authority for the substance of what we have to say as to how the shooting occurred.

"Aust" Presnell, brother of the one who shot Anders, was arrested and is in jail charged with aiding in the shooting. Milt is still at large at the time of this writing although he is being sought by a posse of deputies. Bloodhounds from Asheville were put on the trail, but lost out where it is supposed Milt Presnell caught a ride with someone. At the trial, George Ogle will no doubt be an important witness. His story of the affair was somewhat as follows:

"I with Arthur Presnell went to Sunday School at Grapevine Sunday morning. We ate dinner with Haskell Fisher, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Fisher and went back to the church in the afternoon to singing. Returning home after singing, after passing my house (about half way between the Presnells and Anders houses) as we were nearing the Presnell home we met Fred Anders coming away from the Presnell house and we noticed he was crying and was staggering as if intoxicated. Just before meeting us Fred lost his cap and we helped him find it and put it on his head. We then went on to the Presnell house and were seated on the porch where were also Mr. and Mrs. Frank Presnell, parents of Milt, his

2 brothers, Arthur and Aust, and little Nellie Presnell, sister of Milt. We told the crowd how we had met Fred down the road crying and staggering. Milt said he would go down and see Fred. He went and in a few minutes we saw Milt and Fred coming back toward the house. They were quarreling and cursing at each other. Aust went down and joined them and about that time Fred's brother, Jeter Anders came out of a shop near by and also joined them. We heard Milt say, 'I've got his knife, he can't cut me.' Fred then said, 'I've got another in my bosom.' Milt then slapped Fred on the side of the head. A scuffle ensued and Fred either started to go away or had been thrust away by the others when Milt shot Fred in the back of the head. When the shot was fired, Milt was about 15 feet from Fred, Milt below the road and Fred in the road. Milt immediately turned and went back by the house and right on away.

Dr. Burnett of Mars Hill was sent for but did not arrive. Fred lived about an hour and died on the ground where he was shot. A bullet from 32 caliber pistol was found lodged in the forehead."

This account of the affair told us by George Ogle was practically corroborated by others to whom we talked.

We were told that Milt as he was leaving met some one and told him that he had killed a man down there. All the neighbors with whom we talked expressed regret at this most unfortunate affair. Feeling seemed rather bitter against Milt Presnell.

The body of Fred Anders was interred in the cemetery of the Grapevine Baptist church about midday Tuesday, the funeral service being conducted by Rev. Jesse Corn of the County. Quite a number attended the funeral.

Milt Presnell's wife was Miss Edra Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Fisher, and she and Milt have been married only about a year, Milt being about 35 years old. His mother faints and was said to be in a very nervous condition Tuesday.

MARS HILL COLLEGE CLOSES TODAY

Fine Year's Work Comes to End With
Delightful Exercises

The last of the commencement exercises of Mars Hill College will take place this morning with the alumni address by Dr. O. R. Mangum, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oxford, N. C. The closing exercises of the college, together with examinations have made this a busy week at Mars Hill. The sermon to the graduating class was last Sunday morning delivered by Dr. W. C. Tyree, pastor of the Baptist Church at Lenoir, N. C., and a former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh. Dr. Tyree, in his introductory remarks, said this was his first visit to Mars Hill, that he had long wished to visit this institution and that he did not know why he had not been there before. He was effusive in his praise of the spirit of the institution and the work it was doing, its atmosphere in two senses and its beauty and grandeur of the hills. His sermon was well thought out, timely and much appreciated. Before the sermon, the Glee Club sang "From Every Stormy Wind That Blows," in

with the obbligato made this selection unusually sweet. We would love to hear this repeated.

This writer regrets that many pressing duties prevented his attending all the exercises at Mars Hill. He especially wished to be there this morning, but found that if he did this paper would not be out today, and we consider our first duty is to our subscribers. We therefore must content ourselves with a printed outline of the exercises, in which there may have been changes.

Wednesday afternoon a piano solo by Miss Hazel Tysinger preceded an oratorical contest by Misses Lovell G. Taylor, Benna C. Steele, Carl J. Salisbury. Then followed a vocal duet, "The Sweetest Flower That Blows" by Grace Loftis and Dorothy Satterfield. The next three speakers were Exum F. Baker, Charles W. Roper and Raymond L. Long, a violin solo by Edna Weidman closing the program. In the evening at eight o'clock an oration-essay contest took place, the participants being Lucille Dryman, Fern Alderton, Ellen Teague, and Jacquetta Hill. This program was opened by a vocal solo by Grace Loftis and closed by a piano quartette: 1st piano—Edna Rice, Hazel Tysinger; 2nd piano—Mrs. McHugh, Norman Andrews.

Following this were readings by Eva Mae Briggs of Madison County, Lela Blalock, Altha Wolfe and Howard Mumford. A male quartette closed the evening's program. Thursday morning the annual address was delivered by Mr. John A. Oates of Fayetteville, N. C. A selection by the college orchestra and a violin solo by Edna Weidman preceded the address and the girls' glee club rendered a chorus, "Springtime." At two o'clock in the afternoon was the debate on the query: Resolved, That North Carolina Should Levy a Tax On Property To Aid in the Support of an Eight Months' School Term. The affirmative was upheld by R. Knolan Benfield and N. Merritt Bachelor and the negative by Bruce M. Tomberlin and Thomas E. Belcher. Music was furnished by Mary Hamby and Lucille Hamby as a piano duet and Mr. Mabelle Wall as a piano solo.

The alumni dinner was at 5:30 and at 8:00 in the evening, the operetta, "Gypsy Rover," was given by the music and expression departments. Music will be furnished this morning by the orchestra before the address of Dr. Morgan. A piano solo by Edna Rice will follow the address and a male quartette will follow the awarding of diplomas and medals. Nearly 150 members of the graduating classes are scheduled to receive their diplomas and medals for outstanding work during the term just closed. Seventy-five of this number are in the junior college group and the remainder have finished the academic course.

For the first time in the history of the institution the number of college students enrolled during the session has equaled the number enrolled in other departments. Evidence of the growth of the Baptist school is seen in the fact that the number of graduates in the junior college this year is greater than the total number of students above high school grade in 1923.

Announcements
The first summer term of six weeks will open June 17, 1926.
The second term of six weeks will open July 30, 1926.
The regular session will open September 7, 1926.

NURSE KILLED AS CAR TURNS OVER NEAR MARSHALL

SISTER-IN-LAW WITH HER INJURED BUT NOT SERIOUSLY

Tuesday morning of this week Miss Mabel Christian was fatally injured in an automobile accident near Marshall, and died later at the Rector Hotel. Miss Christian, age 41, was a trained nurse at the Oteen Hospital near Asheville. She and her sister-in-law, Mrs. E. E. Christian, were on their way from Oteen to their home in Kentucky.

In rounding a curve near the Buncombe-Madison line at Mr. R. S. Ramsey's place on Sandy Mush, Miss Christian failed to make the curve, the car ran off the road down the bank, turning over. The steering wheel crushed Miss Christian internally. Dr. Sams was called and the injured women were brought to the Rector Hotel, where Miss Christian died shortly after arriving, talking freely until the last. The body was taken back to Asheville for interment. Mrs. Christian was taken back by Mrs. J. Will Roberts and Mrs. N. B. McDevitt to Asheville.

PROPOSAL

To The Voters of Madison County and the
Candidates for Tax Collector

As a candidate for the office of Tax Collector, I accept the suggestion made by my opponent, (Mr. Grover C. Redmon) that the high man or lady be the Nominee.

I am glad to do this, thereby saving the County extra expense.

Yours to serve,
MRS. ANNIE MAY WHITE

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

After being requested by so many of my friends from different sections of the County, I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of County Commissioner subject to the Republican primary to be held June 5th, 1926. If nominated and elected I will endeavor, to the very best of my ability to serve the people of all sections of the County.

I have had four years' experience as County Commissioner and 2 years of that time as Chairman. I believe that I understand the details of the office and know how the business of the office should be handled.

Thanking you all for your support in the past and asking for your vote and influence in the coming Primary,

I am,
Yours to serve,

JONAS C. CHANDLER

MADISON COUNTY TO HAVE FINE SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS

STIKELEATHER PRAISES MR. HENDRICKS

Mr. J. M. Stikeleather, State Highway Commissioner and Mr. Walker, District Engineer were before the County Commissioners Tuesday of this week. Among other things that were accomplished was that Mr. Stikeleather agreed that he would within about 30 days put a surveying force to relocate the road from Marshall via Mars Hill to Coxes Bridge, and the Commissioners agreed to heartily cooperate with the Highway Commissioners in this project. The county through the Commissioners and the Highway Commission is pledged to the building and surfacing of this road.

It will be recalled that last fall when Mr. Hendricks got the Highway Commission to adopt the Laurel projects, he procured an order by the State Highway Commission for the State to maintain the road from Mars Hill to Coxes Bridge. Mr. Stikeleather stated Tuesday that this would be done at once.

The section of country from Marshall by the way of Mars Hill to the upper end of the County is at last coming into its own. It means that Mars Hill and Marshall will be on the map, and means great things for Madison County.

Mr. Stikeleather, in the course of his remarks, paid Mr. John A. Hendricks a very rare compliment. He said Madison County had a citizen that had a state-wide reputation for broad progressive views. A man that had been of great service to the State and especially to Western North Carolina and Madison County. He said, "I differ from Mr. Hendricks in politics, but Mr. Hendricks stood a-

bove partisan politics and had a State reputation for standing and working for the great progressive measures and especially our great highway system."

"Mr. Hendricks has the confidence and esteem of the State Highway Commission. We are glad to know that a citizen of Madison County is thought so well of, even by the leaders of the opposite party to which he belongs."

"Let's plant a house for the children" is the timely suggestion now being made by those interested in preserving our forests. Extension specialist at State College point out that some of the non-cultivated farm land might be used for this purpose.

A five-year-old boy went with his mother to make a call. The lady of the house, being fond of children, told him she meant to ask his mother to let her keep him.

"Don't you think your mother would let me buy you?" she asked.

"No, ma'am," answered the little fellow, "you haven't got money enough."

"How much would it take?" she continued.

"A hundred dollars," said the boy promptly, as if that would settle the matter.

"Oh, well, then," said the lady, "I think I can manage it. If I can, will you come and stay with me?"

"No, ma'am," he said, with decision. "Mama wouldn't sell me anyhow. There are five of us and she wouldn't like to break the set."

FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

After so many of my friends have requested me to make the race for Register of Deeds, after deep thought and owing to the fact that Mr. Roberts has held the office for four terms, I have decided to enter the race. In the year 1918 Mr. Will Roberts and myself ran for the nomination and I was defeated by only 136 votes. It is customary in this County to elect a man for 2 terms. And I believe the voters of Madison County will agree that Mr. Roberts has been Register of Deeds long enough.

So, thanking you in advance for your support, I am

Yours truly,
E. N. WARD.

FOR SHERIFF

TO THE VOTERS OF
MADISON COUNTY:

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff Madison County, subject to the Republican primary to be held June 5, 1926. If nominated and elected I will endeavor, by the help and cooperation of the good people of the county, to enforce the laws and execute the duties of this office in a fair and impartial manner. Thanking you for your support in the past and asking for your vote and influence in the coming Primary.

I am,
Yours to serve,

WILLARD C. RECTOR

FOR TAX COLLECTOR

TO THE VOTERS OF
MADISON COUNTY

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Tax Collector, subject to the action of the Republican Primary of June 5, 1926.

GROVER C. REDMON

FOR SHERIFF

TO THE VOTERS OF
MADISON COUNTY:

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff Madison County, subject to the Republican primary to be held June 5, 1926. If nominated and elected I will endeavor, by the help and cooperation of the good people of the county, to enforce the laws and execute the duties of this office in a fair and impartial manner. Thanking you for your support in the past and asking for your vote and influence in the coming Primary.

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