



Former Student Admits Setting MHC Fires

Trial Set For February 27 In Superior Court; Bond Denied

Robert Lee Henry Jr., 23, of Atlanta, Ga., has confessed setting fires Sunday night, February 5, which destroyed a 57-year-old auditorium and damaged two other buildings on the Mars Hill College campus, Sheriff E. Y. Ponder said Friday.

Ponder said Henry, a former student, had signed a confession early Friday afternoon in which he admitted setting the fires. But he told Ponder he "didn't know why" he set them.

In his confession, he said he "got the urge" as church was being dismissed Sunday night, a few minutes before the fires were set, according to Ponder.

After signing the confession, Henry was taken to Mars Hill by Sheriff Ponder and State Bureau of Investigation Agents Claude Davis of Arden and P. R. Kitchin of Waynesville, where he pointed out the places where the fires were set, Ponder said.

Henry's attorney, B. Matthews of Atlanta, was in Marshall earlier last week to try to arrange bond, which was denied. Matthews has returned to Atlanta.

Trial was set for Feb. 27 in Madison County Superior Court in Marshall, Ponder said Friday. Henry is now in jail in Marshall. Henry was a student at the college during the 1958-59 term, but was a poor student, according to school authorities.

He returned for the summer school session in 1959, and was then asked not to apply for admission the next fall.

Henry returned to the Mars Hill campus two days before the fires were set, and some of the students arranged a place for him to stay since he was a former student.

Henry, charged with arson, was arrested while firemen were still battling the blaze on Sunday night. Authorities were acting on information furnished them by an unnamed school official.

To Attend Exposition



Miss Ann Herring (Miss-North Carolina)

BETTER LIVING EXPOSITION TO BE IN ASHEVILLE

More than 40,000 people are expected to visit the Better Living Exposition to be held in the City Auditorium, Asheville, March 15 through 18. There will be 132 exhibits covering a wide diversification of products, materials, merchandise, and new ideas and inventions associated with the stepped-up standard of living of the American people.

Visitors will be present from all parts of Western North Carolina because the exposition is a show designed to appeal to everybody: men, women, and children in city, town and country. The Better Living Exposition will be the biggest and most important event of its kind ever held in the region.

In addition to the broad magnitude of its displays, the show will present entertainment features. (Continued To Last Page)

BRAUER TELLS LIONS NEED OF DONATING EYES

Several Marshall Lions Will Their Eyes After Death

Hermann K. Brauer, Eye-Bank Chairman, of Andrews, N. C., was guest speaker at the Marshall Lions Club meeting Monday night at the Rock Cafe.

Mr. Brauer praised the Lions Clubs of 81-A for their participation in the eye bank and urged the Marshall club to join others. He set forth three goals for the local club, to wit: 1. Each member donate his eyes; 2. Raise \$1.00 per member for work of eye-bank in North Carolina; 3. Lion Eye Chairman promote program to let others learn of eye-bank.

He reviewed the beginning of the eye-bank as follows:

Back in 1944, the idea of an Eye-Bank was first considered seriously. It is estimated that, at that time, there were less than a dozen qualified surgeons who were interested in what is called the corneal grafting operation. Those surgeons who were interested in it ran into extreme difficulty in securing eye tissue for a successful operation.

In the first seventeen years of the Eye-Bank operation, the public has responded rather well, but the Eye-Bank today is unable to meet the growing demand of surgeons for this grafting material. (Continued To Last Page)

CENSUS BUREAU TO COLLECT INFORMATION

Special questions, designed to obtain information on the work experience of Americans in 1960, will be asked in the February Current Population Survey, it was announced today by Director Joseph R. Norwood of the Census Bureau's regional field office at Charlotte.

The work experience questions will be in addition to the regular monthly inquiries on employment and unemployment. They will cover the number of weeks worked during 1960, amount of time lost from work due to unemployment or layoffs, the principal job held during the year, and related items. Additional questions will be asked of hired farm workers covering such items as years worked for the same farmer, seasonal farm work away from home, and amount of non-farm work for cash wages or salary.

The Current Population Survey will be conducted here and in 329 other areas of the country during the week of February 20. Local interviews will be carried out by Mrs. Edna L. Harmon.

To Be Closed

All offices in the Courthouse will be closed Wednesday, Feb. 22, to observe George Washington's birthday. The Bank of French Broad, the Citizens Bank and the Draft Board will also be closed.

Wife Wanted Advt. Gets Quick Results

"It certainly does pay to advertise in The News-Record," Mr. E. R. Moore, of Asheville RFD 4, stated this week.

Mr. Moore "ran" a Wife Wanted advertisement in the classified column last week and has received letters from several likely "applicants." Mr. Moore and his wife, Mrs. Moore, visited the office here Monday and cancelled the advertisement. He explained that although he hasn't married any of the applicants, he has now to look after his daughter while he is working.

"The in this ad was a real one," he said. "I was so glad to see it." (Continued To Last Page)

Annual Cage Tournament To Start Here Tuesday Night

Easter Seal Child



Jane Yates

JANE YATES IS 1961 EASTER SEAL CHILD

Chapel Hill — Dr. Edgar T. Thompson of Duke University, president of the North Carolina Society for Impaired Children and Adults — the Easter Seal Society, has announced the selection of little Miss Jane Yates of Kings Mountain as the 1961 State Easter Seal Child. Jane is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Yates.

Jane is eight years old and a third grader at East Elementary School, Kings Mountain. She is very active and, says Mrs. Yates, "Still only when she's asleep." Her report card shows an almost continuous string of A's. Jane is quite expert with the hula. (Continued To Last Page)

Thieves Captured With Loot From Hot Springs Store

Three thieves who stole some shoes, three guns and ammunition from the Wade Ponder store in Hot Springs on December 21, have been arrested in Canyon, Texas. According to Sheriff E. Y. Ponder, the three men—James R. Groves, of Indiana, Donald Carlson, of Pennsylvania, and Houston Lee Wannett, of Sparta, Tenn. — were arrested after breaking and entering at Tulsa, Texas and killing a deputy sheriff. When arrested, the stolen merchandise from Hot Springs was found.

All three are charged with first degree murder.

Large Chicken Hawk Killed Here Friday

One of the largest chicken hawks ever killed in this area was shot Friday afternoon about two o'clock by "Dick" Trenchard.

Many people viewing the wide wingspread, remarked that "it's the largest hawk I've ever seen."

Steamer Outfit Cut Down On Little Laurel

A steamer outfit was cut down last week on the Little Laurel river, in addition to the 1000 lb. outfit of last year's outfit. (Continued To Last Page)

FOOD AND COVER PLANTINGS NOW AVAILABLE HERE

Shrub and sericea lespedeza when planted alone or in combination are valuable game cover plantings. Shrubs next to woods produce seed at the rate of 500 pounds per acre. Sericea planted next to fields may be used as a turn row for farm equipment.

Plantings of mixed annuals, such as milo, millet, lespedeza, soybeans, and cowpeas, provide a temporary fall and winter food supply for farm game.

These plantings can be secured by contacting Harry Silver, Farm Agent; Boyd Baucum, Soil Conservationist; or by writing Rex Bird, N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 1619 Kensington Rd., Hendersonville, N. C.

RESIGNATION OF J. M. BALEY JR. IS ACCEPTED

James M. Baley Jr., of Asheville and formerly of Marshall, U. S. attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, Monday by President John F. Kennedy that Baley's resignation had been accepted.

The acceptance is pending the nomination and qualification of Baley's successor, the President wrote. Baley announced Jan. 24 that he had submitted his resignation.

WOOL PAYMENTS APPLY TO SALES BEFORE APRIL

Wool growers were reminded today that the 1960 program payments, to be made this summer, will be made only on wool and unshorn lambs which are marketed before March 31, 1961. That is the closing date for the 1960 program.

Novile Hawkins, chairman of the ASC county committee, also pointed out that applications for such payments under the 1960 wool program must be filed before the end of April, 1961.

He emphasized that adequate records on the sales must support the information on the payment applications. For instance, producers' sales records for shorn lambs, sides a tricycle, signs in (Continued To Last Page)

APPALACHIAN ALUMNI TO MEET IN ASHEVILLE FRI.

Boone — Appalachian State Teachers College alumni in 13 counties of the western district come together for an organizational meeting and dinner in Asheville at the S&W Cafeteria Friday. (Continued To Last Page)

SUMMARY OF '60 COUNTY ACP

A summary recently compiled relative to the status of soil and water conservation practices practiced through the 1960 Government re-education program is shown on the accompanying chart. (Continued To Last Page)

Finals On Saturday Night; JV Games To Start At 6:00

Heart Director



Miss Joanne Aldridge

MISS ALDRIDGE IS FIELD DIRECTOR HEART DRIVE

Miss Joanne Aldridge of Chapel Hill is Field Director for the North Carolina Heart Association in Madison County. In addition to Madison County, Miss Aldridge is responsible for seventeen other counties in the Piedmont and Western section of the state: Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Durham, High Point, Iredell, Lincoln, McDowell, Mitchell, Moore, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga and Wilkes counties.

Miss Aldridge is a native of Boone. She graduated from Appalachian State University. (Continued To Last Page)

Mars Hill Girls and Boys Are Defending Champions

Players and coaches will be tense, fans excited, whistles will begin to blow, lineups will be announced and the annual basketball fever will reach its peak next Tuesday night as the annual basketball tournament gets underway in the Marshall gymnasium.

With season's records indicating close contests in both girls' and boys' divisions, this year's tourney is expected to be one of the most exciting in history. The closeness of the standings is evidenced by the fact that pairings for the tourney were not made until this week's games were played. Defending champions are the Mars Hill girls and the Mars Hill boys.

Although the tourney is single elimination, the event will continue nightly through Saturday when the finals will be played. The high school junior varsity tourney will precede the "big" games nightly. The opening games nightly will begin at six o'clock with girls' JV games. These will be followed by the JV boys' games. The varsity games (Continued To Last Page)

Local Firemen To Meet Friday

Allen L. Duckett, Marshall Fire Chief, announced this week that a meeting of the firemen will be held at the City Hall Friday night at 7:30 o'clock. All firemen are urged to be present.

Mrs. Roberts, Native Of County, Shot Saturday

Shooting Occurs On Patton Avenue; Find True Bill

The grand jury in Buncombe Superior Court Tuesday returned a true bill against Zeb W. Jones, 58, of RFD 3, Asheville, charged with assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Jones is charged with the shooting of Mrs. Edith Goforth Roberts, 37, of 63 Old Starnes Cove Rd., last Saturday on Patton Avenue. He was taken into custody by police moments after.

Mrs. Roberts, who suffered 22 caliber pistol bullet wounds in the face and chest, has been a patient at Memorial Mission Hospital since the shooting. Her condition is reported fair.

Jones had waived a preliminary hearing Tuesday morning before Judge Sam Cathey in Asheville. Police Court had been bound over for trial in Buncombe Superior Court.

The shooting took place in broad daylight in a congested area of the downtown shopping center while scores of pedestrians looking on horror-stricken. Jones has readily admitted shooting Mrs. Roberts, according to investigating officers.

The series of shots were fired about 12:45 p. m., according to Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Roberts were standing on the sidewalk in front of the Mars Hill at 11 Patton Avenue.

CURIOSITY NO EXCUSE; CAUGHT COLD

Curiosity, the sometime cat killer, was a Madison County man's excuse for a Sunday trek to an illicit still in the Little Laurel section.

But it wasn't good enough for two federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division investigators who had spent five hours Sunday on a stakeout in the snow. The officers charged Oliver (Dutch) Cook, 60, with operating an unlicensed distillery and with possession of materials and equipment to make illegal whisky.

Cook appeared at a 10 a. m. hearing Tuesday before U. S. Commissioner Lawrence Stoker and was freed on \$300 bond.

The investigators also destroyed a 50-gallon steamer-type still and 100 gallons of mash.

"He told us he didn't know where the still was, but had heard about it and was curious," an agent said. "But we followed him straight up two miles of snow-covered mountains in the area of the still. I couldn't have found a man with a map."

Cook is already under probation for a previous liquor violation in 1958. He was arrested in U. S. District Court. (Continued To Last Page)

Burned Ruins At MNC Stirs Many Memories

BAR GROUP PICKS ROBERTS AS PRESIDENT

Landon H. Roberts, of Asheville, and formerly of Marshall, is the new president of the Buncombe County Bar Association. He was elected to succeed James G. Adams Jr., at the annual meeting Friday in the Buncombe County Courthouse.

The new officers were introduced at a dinner dance at 6:30 p. m., Saturday in The Minor. The association made plans to hold memorial services for the seven members who died during the past year.

Senator Roberts Is Appointed To 10 Committees

State Senator Chas. M. Roberts, of Marshall, has been appointed to 10 committees, according to H. Clay Phillips, Lieutenant Governor.

Following are the committees: Agriculture, Education, Finance, Health, Labor, Law, Public Safety, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, and Wildlife. (Continued To Last Page)

Suggests Making Bricks Of Building Available To Alumni As Souvenirs

The burned out ruins of the old Mars Hill College auditorium have stirred fond memories among some older alumni and brought varied suggestions for disposing of the massive brick walls.

Franklin Y. McCracken, of Waynesville, a student here in 1906 when the building was erected, wrote Dr. Hoyt Binckwell, president of the Baptist institution, lamenting the loss and offering a contribution toward the cost of a new auditorium and fine arts building now under construction.

"It was in the little northeast corner room of the old auditorium," he wrote, "that I proposed to Miss Bettie Lee Cox, who later became my wife. It was Feb. 5, 1908, and we were working on the construction for a student program. Since that time the building has been dear to me."

Mrs. O. F. Roberts, a member of the college for 42 years, also presented at the hearing of the ruins.

"I remember that the building was built in 1906 and was burned out in 1958. I would like to see the bricks used for a memorial building. (Continued To Last Page)